STUDY NOTES · BASIC CONCEPT

FSSAI Crackdown on Fake ENO & Coffee: Detailed Explanation

Defence & Security

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Action by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) carried out a major enforcement drive and seized nearly 1 lakh fake ENO packets along with 50,000 coffee sachets. This large-scale seizure indicates the growing presence of counterfeit and adulterated food products in the market. The action was part of FSSAI's ongoing efforts to ensure food safety and protect consumers from harmful products.

Health Risks of Fake and Adulterated Products

Fake ENO and adulterated coffee can be extremely harmful to human health. These products may contain low-grade or toxic substances instead of genuine ingredients. Regular consumption can lead to digestive problems, allergic reactions, and even long-term health complications. This makes it important for consumers to remain vigilant while purchasing everyday food items.

Water Test to Check Coffee Purity

One of the simplest methods suggested is the water test. In this method, a small quantity of coffee powder is added to a glass of water. If the coffee is pure, it will settle slowly at the bottom and the water will remain relatively clear. However, if the coffee is adulterated, the water may quickly change color, indicating the presence of artificial substances or impurities.

Float Test for Detecting Adulteration

Another easy method is the float test. When coffee powder is sprinkled on water, pure coffee tends to sink gradually over time. On the other hand, adulterated coffee may float on the surface or spread rapidly. This unusual behavior suggests that the product may contain impurities or lighter, non-coffee materials.

Identifying Fake ENO Products

Consumers can also identify fake ENO by closely examining the packaging. Genuine products usually have a valid FSSAI license number, clear labeling, and high-quality printing. Fake products may have spelling errors, poor packaging quality, or suspiciously low prices. Paying attention to these details can help avoid purchasing counterfeit items.

Awareness and Consumer Responsibility

FSSAI is not only taking strict action against violators but also encouraging consumers to stay informed. By promoting simple home tests and awareness campaigns, the authority aims to empower people to identify adulterated products themselves. Consumer awareness plays a crucial role in reducing the spread of fake goods in the market.

Impact of the Crackdown

Such large-scale seizures send a strong message to manufacturers and sellers involved in illegal practices. It strengthens regulatory enforcement and helps build trust among consumers. At the same time, it highlights the need for continuous monitoring and stricter quality control in the food supply chain.

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