## PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF FOOD SAFETY, KERALA, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM (Present: Smt Afsana Perween IAS)

CFS – Adulteration in Ghee – Proceedings under Section 30(1) & 30(2)(d) and Section 29(3) of Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 - Orders issued.

Read:- 1) Form VII A Report No. 3940(M)/2023-24 dated 06/10/2023

2) Form VII A Report No. 2086(M)/2023-24 dated 26/04/2023

3) Form VII A Report No. 4062(M)/2023-24 dated 21/10/2023

4) Form VII A Report No. 5657(M)/2023-24 dated 14/03/2024

5) Form VII A Report No. 2763/2024-25 dated 02/08/2024

## Order No. CFS/2565/2024-B2 dated 31/08/2024

As per Regulation 2.3.7 of Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition & Restriction of Sales) Regulation 2011, the sale or use for sale of admixtures of ghee or butter is prohibited.

Food Safety Officers collected different samples of Ghee manufactured by Choice Herbals, AP VI/448, Chappathinkara, Kudappanamoodu P.O, Amboori, Thiruvananthapuram in various brand names such as Choice Narunei, Menma Narunei, SRS Ghee Narunei and the same was reported as Substandard as the sample does not conform to the Standards of Ghee falling under Regulation 2.1.8 of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulation 2011.

As per the label on the said sample Name of the sample is Ghee whereas the list of ingredients is shown as Ghee, Vegetable oil and Vanaspathi. Hence the sale and use of this admixture consisting of other oil and fat which does not conform to the definitions of ghee is prohibited as per Regulation 2.3.7 of Food Safety and Standards (Prohibitions and Restriction on Sales) Regulation 2011.

Section 18(1)(a) of Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 stipulate that the Central Government, the State Governments, The Food Authority and other agencies, as the case may be, while implementing the provisions of this Act shall be guided by the following principle namely.

"endeavor to achieve an appropriate level of protection of human life and health and the protection of consumer's interest, including fair practices in all kinds of food trade with reference to food safety standards and practices;

Section 18(1)(f) of Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 stipulate that "in cases where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that a food may present a risk for human health, then, depending on the nature, seriousness and extent of that risk, the Food Authority and the Commissioner of Food Safety shall take appropriate steps to inform the general public of the nature of the risk to health, identifying to the fullest extent possible the food or type of food, the risk that it may present, and the measures which are taken or about to be taken to prevent, reduce or eliminate that risk" Section 27(1) of Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 stipulates that "the manufacturer or packer of an article of food shall be liable for such article of food if it does not meet the requirements of this Act and the rules and regulations made there under".

The Commissioner of Food Safety has been entrusted and has been called to perform such function under Section 30(2)(d). To ensure an efficient and uniform implementation of the standards and other requirements as specified and also ensure a high standard of objectivity, accountability, practicability, transparency and credibility.

Section 23(3) of the Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 stipulates that "The authorities shall maintain a system of control and other activities as appropriate to the circumstances, including public communication on food safety and risk, food safety surveillance and other monitoring activities covering all stages of food business".

Section 30(2)(a) of Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 stipulates that,

"The Commissioner of Food Safety shall perform all or any of the following functions, namely:-

Prohibit in the interest of public health, the manufacturer, storage, distribution or sale of any article of food, either in the whole of the State or any area or part thereof for such period, not exceeding one year, as may be specified in the order notified in this behalf in the Official Gazette;

And therefore in order to protect consumer interest, manufacture, storage, distribution and sale of Ghee manufactured by Choice Herbals, AP VI/448, Chappathinkara, Kudappanamoodu PO, Amboori, Thiruvananthapuram in various brand names such as Choice Narunei, Menma Narunei, SRS Ghee Narunei is prohibited with immediate effect as envisaged under Regulation 2.1.1(3) of Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulation 2011, within the State of Kerala.

Commissioner of Food Safety

To

All concerned

## Copy to:

- 1. Deputy Director (PFA)
- 2. Joint Commissioner of Food Safety (Enforcement)
- 3. All Deputy Commissioners of Food Safety
- 4. All Assistant Commissioners of Food Safety
- 5. CA to Commissioner
- 6. File/Stock file