

HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE FOR RAJASTHAN
BENCH AT JAIPUR

D.B. Civil Writ Petition No. 10675/2024

Suo Moto In Re- Public Health - Protect The Present And
Safeguard The Future From Food Adulteration

-----Petitioner

Versus

Union Of India

-----Respondent

Connected With

D.B. Civil Writ Petition No. 9804/2025

Suo Moto

-----Petitioner

Versus

Union Of India

-----Respondent

For Petitioner(s)	:	Mr. M.S. Singhvi, Sr. Advocate through VC assisted by Mr. Darsh Pareek (amicus curiae)
For Respondent(s)	:	Mr. Rajendra Prasad (Sr. Adv.) Advocate General assisted by Ms. Harshita Thakral Mr. Bharat Vyas, ASG assisted by Mr. Devesh Yadav and Ms. Anima Chaturvedi Mr. Manoj Sharma, AAG with Mr. S.M. Sharma, AAAG Mr. Mudit Singhvi

HON'BLE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE MR. SANJEEV PRAKASH SHARMA
HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE SANGEETA SHARMA

Order

12/02/2026

It has been highlighted by learned senior counsel appearing as amicus curiae that there is rampant adulteration of milk in various places. Chemically prepared milk is being produced and supplied to Saras Dairies in Rajasthan, resulting in complete adulteration of the milk. He has also pointed out that adulteration

of milk is also being done by administering injection resulting in artificially increasing the production of milk which would have no quality and in fact would be harmful to the human health. Such adulterated milk is also being distributed through dairies as well as directly to the consumers. A suggestion is therefore being made to curb such adulteration by enforcing the provisions of the Food Safety Act and by establishing laboratory testing facilities at the grass-root level from where milk is procured. The persons should also be prosecuted who are indulged in such adulteration and such prosecution should also bring out results by way of convictions and punishment.

Learned Advocate General principally agreed that test of the milk which is being procured, has to be done at the level when milk is being delivered at Saras Dairies and the authority which can best answer to these aspects, is the concerned dairies.

We, accordingly, issue notice to the Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation (RCDF) as well as to the concerned Cooperative Dairies of each district who may want to represent their case before this Court.

The Registry is directed to send notice along with a copy of this order to the respective dairies in each district of Rajasthan.

The State shall also inform this Court of the number of laboratories in Rajasthan which are specialized in conducting tests relating to adulteration of milk.

We are of the view that, as there are 44 districts in Rajasthan and the State of Rajasthan is geographically vast with places located far apart, it is necessary that laboratories be established at the district level in each district.

Let the State respond to our observations and inform as to what steps they would like to take in establishing the laboratories at the district level.

Another aspect which has been highlighted by the learned amicus curiae is in relation to water treatment techniques.

Learned Advocate General informs that Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) has been made operational at Sanganer. He would also inform as to whether similar CETPs have been established in other cities where there is industrial development and effluents are being released in the nearby rivers in each and every region where industries are set up and effluent of such factories is being released in the water.

Learned amicus curiae has flagged the issue of CETPs not functioning upto the required standards and despite being functional, the treated water released is still not of such level which can be utilized for agricultural purposes especially for growing of vegetables.

This issue also requires to be examined from the Pollution Control Board.

We, therefore, direct that the Pollution Control Board, through its Chairman, be impleaded as a party to this petition and notice shall be served upon them. They will also file an affidavit as to what steps have been taken by them on appointing the officers for examining the level of water pollution at various places and to monitor the treatment of effluents discharged through cities.

The report shall be filed before the Court. We expect that while submitting the report, vigilance has to be continued at level to see that there is no pollution as it is going to affect the health

of all the citizens. It goes without saying that such pollution results in hazard to the health of each and every citizen.

We need not highlight the situation which has occurred in Punjab on account of not treating the water due to effluent of factories. The effluent being released, resulting in cancer in the complete 3-4 districts of Punjab.

The time has come for the State Government and its authorities to act and show more vigilance in this regard.

List these cases on 06.04.2026.

In the meantime, the report shall be filed by the Pollution Control Board. The Board shall also inform this Court about the status of the installation of Reverse Osmosis (RO) systems which are required to be set up at the CETPs.

(SANGEETA SHARMA),J

(SANJEEV PRAKASH SHARMA),ACTING CJ