



# UP Government's Ordinances on Food Safety and Contamination

## Why in News?

The Uttar Pradesh government recently proposed two [ordinances](#) to address growing concerns over [food contamination](#) and anti-social activities in the food industry, spurred by a series of incidents involving contamination by human waste.

## Key Points

- **New Food Ordinances:**
  - **Prevention of Pseudo and Anti-Harmony Activities and Prohibition of Spitting Ordinance 2024.**
  - **Uttar Pradesh Prevention of Contamination in Food (Consumer Right to Know) Ordinance 2024.**
  - These ordinances are designed to make [food contamination](#) by spitting or mixing human waste a [cognizable and non-bailable offense](#).
- **Ordinance to Address "Anti-Social Elements" and "Illegal Citizens":**
  - The ordinances will include provisions to take strict action against food establishment employees confirmed to be ["illegal foreign citizens."](#)
  - This move is aimed at weeding out individuals who hide their identities to engage in food contamination or other [anti-social activities](#).
- **Mandatory Name and Identity Display at Food Establishments:**
  - To promote transparency, the government has made it mandatory for all food establishments to prominently display the names of owners and managers.
  - Additionally, all workers in food establishments must wear **identity cards** while on duty.
  - This measure is aimed at ensuring accountability and preventing individuals from hiding their identity.
- **Compulsory Installation of CCTV Cameras:**
  - All eateries and food establishments will be required to **install [CCTV cameras](#)** in their kitchens and dining areas.
  - The footage must be kept for at least a month and be available to district authorities if required.
  - This will help monitor food preparation and service to prevent contamination.
- **Right to Information for Consumers:**
  - Every consumer will have the **right to essential information** about the food they consume and the establishments where it is prepared.
  - The ordinances ensure that sellers display clear signboards and avoid using false names or pseudonyms, holding them accountable for any violation.
- **Legal and Constitutional Process for an Ordinance:**
  - **Ordinance as a Legislative Tool:**
    - An ordinance is a temporary law enacted by the executive ([Governor](#), at the state level) when the legislature is not in session.
    - It is issued under [Article 213 of the Indian Constitution](#) for states, which empowers the Governor to promulgate ordinances in urgent situations.
  - **Approval and Continuation:**

- Once an ordinance is issued, it must be presented to the state legislature when it reconvenes.
- The ordinance will cease to exist if it is not approved by both houses of the state legislature within six weeks from the start of the next session.
- **Constitutional Safeguards:**
  - The ordinance must adhere to the principles of **reasonableness** and **public interest** under [Articles 14 \(Right to Equality\) and 21 \(Right to Life and Personal Liberty\)](#).
  - Judicial review is available if the ordinance is seen to violate fundamental rights or exceed the executive's constitutional mandate.

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