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## Uttarakhand Government's Guidelines for 'Spit Jihad' | Uttarakhand | 17 Oct 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the Uttarakhand government introduced new guidelines aimed at [curbing food contamination](#) incidents involving spitting, addressing growing concerns around [food safety](#) during the festive season.

### Key Points

- **Strict Fines Imposed:** A fine of up to **Rs. 1 lakh will be imposed on offenders** who contaminate food by spitting or committing similar offenses.
  - The guidelines come after recent viral incidents, including videos **from Mussoorie and Dehradun** where individuals were caught spitting in food items, triggering public outrage.
- **Police Verification and CCTV:** Hotels and eateries are now required to conduct police verification for their staff, and the **installation of CCTV cameras** in kitchens is mandatory.
  - Authorities will run awareness campaigns to educate the public and businesses about maintaining food safety standards.
- **Health Department Involvement:** The **Health and Food Safety departments** will assist police in random inspections and checks at eateries to ensure compliance with safety standards.
- **Legal Action:** Offenders could be charged under multiple legal provisions, including sections related to public nuisance and food adulteration under the [Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita \(BNS\)](#) and the [Uttarakhand Police Act, 2007](#).
- **Zero Tolerance for Religious Sensitivities:** If the act affects religion or community harmony, additional charges under [BNS section 196 \(promoting enmity\)](#) could be applied.

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PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/statepcs/19-10-2024/uttarakhand/print>