

Crack Down on Food Adulteration

Why in News?

Recently, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister issued new directives to combat food adulteration in the state.

Key Points

Display of Proprietors' Names:

- All restaurants and eateries must prominently display the names and addresses of their operators, proprietors, managers, and other key staff.
- The move is aimed at ensuring transparency and accountability in food establishments.

Amendment to Food Safety Act:

- Amendments to the <u>Food Safety and Standards Act</u>, <u>2006</u> will be made to enforce compliance with the new display rules.
- A state-wide verification campaign will be conducted, involving the Food Safety and Drug Administration, Police, and Local Administration.

Mandatory CCTV Installation:

- All eateries, hotels, and dhabas must install <u>CCTV cameras</u> covering both dining areas and other sections of the establishment.
- Operators are responsible for securely storing CCTV footage and providing it to law enforcement upon request.

Public Health and Hygiene:

- The directives are part of the state's response to food adulteration cases where human waste and other contaminants were found in food.
- Strict hygiene practices will be enforced, including mandatory use of masks and gloves for all food preparation and serving staff.

FSSAI

- The **Food Safety and Standards Act (FSSAI)**, established in **2006**, serves as India's primary legislation for regulating food <u>safety</u>. It sets standards for food products and oversees their **manufacture**, **storage**, **distribution**, **sale**, and **import**. The Act aims to ensure the availability of safe and wholesome food for consumers.
- Key features of the FSSAI Act, 2006 :
 - Unified Food Laws: It consolidates multiple food laws into one unified system, establishing clear standards for food safety and quality.
 - Powers to State Governments: The Act allows state governments to frame rules and take measures to regulate food safety at the local level, such as conducting inspections, ensuring compliance, and initiating actions against violations.
 - Food Safety Authority: The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
 was created under this Act to set food standards, conduct food safety audits, and promote
 safe food practices.
- The Act empowers both central and state authorities to maintain strict vigilance on food safety and take action in case of non-compliance, such as the recent directives issued by Uttar Pradesh to address food adulteration concerns.

