

## Life Imprisonment For Milk Adulteration? State To Bring In A New Act

Dated: 13 March 2018 (Tuesday) E-Paper



**Mumbai** - Day by day, milk adulteration cases are on the rise across Maharashtra and in Mumbai as well. The Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) officials are trying their best to deal with milk adulteration cases, but it is proving of no use. In order to prevent this scenario, the state government might bring in a new act.

The state's law and judiciary department might think of handing life imprisonment as punishment in a case of milk adulteration, confirmed Food and Civil Supplies Minister Girish Bapat in a Maharashtra Legislative Assembly. He added that if law and judiciary department gives a green signal, then a new act will be made.

Where Bharatiya Janata Party's MLA Atul Bhatkhalkar raised the issue of growing cases of milk adulteration, BJP MLA Amit Satam demanded that people who are engaged in such cases should get life imprisonment.

## What is the provision in current law?

According to Food Safety and Standards Act (FSSAI), if a person is caught selling adulterated milk, then he is eligible for a fine of ₹5 lakh and six-months of jail term. And if someone dies or gets injured due to adulterated milk, then he will have to serve a jail term of one year to seven years.

But the only hindrance in the current law is people who are involved in milk adulteration get a bail very easily and so these cases are increasing. And so, Maharashtra government is planning to follow footsteps of Orissa, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh where people who are caught in milk adulteration cases are given life imprisonment.

## GPS devices will be placed on tankers

In other means, the state is also planning to place GPS devices on milk tankers the way it is placed on petrol and rockel tankers.