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Gujarat: Release data of reused oil causing cancer, CAIT asks authorities



Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) on Monday asked state's food regulator to release the data which suggests that if edible oil is used multiple times can cause cancer. The state government had recently mandated that beyond a certain extent edible oil cannot be reused for cooking or else it is harmful to human health and can cause even cancer. CAIT wants the government to review its decision on merits and scientific analysis.

As per the norms of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), edible oil if reused multiple times to cook food is harmful to the consumer. Cooking in same oil multiple times would increase the content of Total Polarized Compound (TPC) to

FSSAI IN NEWS

exceed the permissible limit of 25%. Gujarat is conducting a pilot study to execute the provision.

However, in a letter to Food and Drugs Control Authority (FDCA) of Gujarat, CAIT has demanded from the findings of any scientific study that proves that TPC beyond 25% has causes cancer. "In Gujarat consumption of farsan is very common. So far there is no evidence of farsan made from reused edible oil to cause cancer or any other health hazard," said Pramod Bhagat, president of CAIT in Gujarat. He also termed the decision as short sited.

"The food industry is by and largely unorganized. It would be impracticable to monitor the implementation of the provision. If implemented, it would force many street food vendors out of job. On the other hand, it will open floodgates for Inspector Raj for the organized players. Since there are no instances of people falling ill even after consuming food from roadside vendors, the government should review the decision and instead enforce measures, that genuinely reduces the risk on the consumers," said Hiren Gandhi, a member of CAIT.

CAIT said that since most of the players in the food sector are in the unorganized sector and even illiterate, it would be difficult for the authorities to ensure that these norms are adhered to.