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VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Food safety team collects six samples

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A team of Food Safety Department carried out a checking drive under Dr Harjot Pal Singh, Assistant Commissioner, Food and Satnam Singh Food Safety Officer, Kapurthala under Tandarust Punjab Mission.

The team collected six samples of food items at Jalandhar Road, Kapurthala. Vehicles carrying food items, especially milk and milk products were checked during the drive. Besides, a departmental was also inspected and samples, including Urad Dal (Dal Mah) after reports of false colouring of dals. The food wing seized six samples of milk, urad dal sabut, urad dal chilka, masar dhoti, black chana and tea leaves.

The samples have been dispatched to the State Food Laboratory, Kharar, and the report of the analysis will be made available to the department as soon as possible.

Further legal action will be initiated against the offenders, as per the report of the Kharar laboratory, under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and Rules and Regulations, 2011.

The checking drive by the food wing, Kapurthala, will be continued in future also.

Officials of the Health Department said: "Dals may be artificially coloured. However, artificial colouring of dals is illegal and invites strict action under Section 59 of the FSSA (Food Safety and Standards Act) 2006 and Food Safety and Standards Rules and Regulations 2011 which provides punishment for unsafe food."