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## FSSAI ropes in Ananda Oil Corporation to collect used cooking oil

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CHENNAI: Ananda Oil Corporation has said it has been designated as an authorised aggregator in Kancheepuram district in Tamil Nadu to collect used cooking oil from Food Business Operators (FBO) like caterers, restaurants, hotels and others with the support of food safety officers of FSSAI.

In an effort to prevent health hazards owing to the consumption of used cooking oil, the firm has tied up with FSSAI to be part of its Repurpose Used Cooking Oil (RUCO) initiative, which facilitates and supports the collection of used cooking oils and its conversion into bio-diesel. Earlier, Ananda Oil Corporation had tied up with FSSAI – Madurai for collecting UCO. To date, they have collected 30 MT's of UCO from Madurai district in which 20MT of UCO was dispatched Feb 14 2020 to biodiesel manufacturer, which has been converted to biodiesel and distributed UCO-Biodiesel to Indian Oil Corporation Hyderabad. T Anuradha, an officer of Food Safety Department, Kancheepuram district, had distributed the RUCO labelled 30 Litre storage containers to caterers in the district including CRCL, Sodexo, Arya Nivas, Proodel, Vajra Catering services, Maxx Hospitality and Catering Services, through Oil aggregator Ananda corporation. "Reusing cooking oil multiple times is a very serious health hazard which can lead to hypertension, atherosclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, liver diseases, and other problems. Unfortunately, this is a rampant practice all over the country with the agents collecting the used cooking oil from the big hotels and restaurants after some filtering reaching it out to smaller hotels and again from there to the roadside vendors till it reaches the common man. More than 300 hotels participating in this initiative have been given a sticker by FSSAI for prominent display in their premises. Those who do not enrol for this initiative do stand a possibility of their license being cancelled by FSSAI, given the serious health hazards of recycling used cooking oil.

Any food processing unit using cooking oil, in and around Chengalpet and Kancheepuram, wanting to avail of the benefit of this initiative, may call or WhatsApp 9940044331.