

# THE TIMES OF INDIA

## Food safety dept to host Swasth Bharat Yatra

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Madurai: The food safety officials of Madurai district will host a nation-wide programme aimed at promoting awareness on food safety, food adulteration and healthy food. Titled 'Swasth Bharat Yatra', the three-day event begins on Friday with the entry of eat right convoy from Virudhunagar district.

Food safety standards authority of India, which conducts the 100-day long event, has dispatched specially-designed eat right mobile units and food safety on wheels, the officials said.

The awareness programme had kicked off on the World Food Day simultaneously in Leh, Panaji, Thiruvananthapuram, Puducherry, Ranchi and Agartala. From there, they will travel to the remote parts of the country.

Food safety officer M Somasundaram said that the convoy would have around 1,000 cyclists travelling to various parts of Madurai district, creating awareness all along. There would be a grand event on the last day in Madurai on October 28, which would see the performance of 50 folk artists. In all, 150 pigeons would be released to mark the 150th birth centennial year of Mahatma Gandhi.

A host of events like awareness exhibitions, rallies and street plays involving students are planned on the day. P Amudha, principal secretary to government and commissioner of food safety, visited Madurai a couple of weeks ago to check the preparation for the event. After 100 days of cycling covering around 2000 locations, the eat right convoys and cyclists will reach New Delhi in the last week of January.