



Maggi samples fail lab test, UP administration asks Nestle India to pay Rs 70 lakh fine

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Nestle India's Maggi woes continue.

Nestle India has again landed in trouble with its popular noodle brand Maggi after facing a ban previously. The Shahjahanpur district administration of Uttar Pradesh has slapped a fine of total Rs 70 lakhs on Nestle India, its two factories and distributors after Maggi samples failed lab tests. Nestle India has said that it appears to be 'case of application of incorrect standards', and they will file an appeal against the order.

The samples were taken in 2015 and were sent to government food and analysis lab in Lucknow. The lab test results found that ash content in Maggi was found to be more than double the permissible limit.

After the lab report, Chief Food Security officer had lodged a case against the company, owners of its factories and distributors at ADM Court. On the conclusion of arguments and hearing, the ADM (Administration), Shahjahanpur Jitendra Kumar Sharma passed an order on Wednesday under Section 51 of Food Safety and Standards Act slapping a fine of Rs 35 lakhs on Nestle India Ltd.



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A fine of Rs 10 lakh each was slapped on two of its factories. Four distributors of Nestle India products in Shahjahanpur have also been asked to pay up Rs 17 lakhs as fine.

Nestle India has responded to this development. In a statement they said, " We strongly reiterate that MAGGI Noodles are 100% safe for consumption. While we have not received the orders passed by the adjudication officer, we have been informed that the samples are of year 2015 and the issue pertains to 'ash content' in Noodles. This appears to be a case of application of incorrect standards, and we will file an appeal urgently once we receive the order. In 2015, Nestlé India and other companies had represented to the relevant authorities, via industry associations, to set standards specific to instant noodles to avoid confusion amongst enforcement officers and consumers. The standards have since been introduced and the product complies with these standards. We regret the confusion it may cause to consumers."

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“The order should serve as a deterrent to companies who manufacture hazardous food items and are still not following prescribed limits under the the food safety and standards act,” said the ADM after passing the order.

In 2015-2016, Nestle India had suffered huge losses and faced a ban following failure of Maggi samples in Bara Banki district.

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