

120 vacancies at the Food Safety Commissionerate in Kerala

Food safety officials have been directed to step up surveillance at border check-posts to prevent the entry of substandard and contaminated meat from neighbouring States, Health Minister K.K. Shylaja has said.

The government has also decided to carry out regular inspections at hotels, restaurants, bakeries, and meat sale outlets and take stern action against those found flouting health safeguards, she said while replying to a submission moved by T.A. Ahmed Kabir in the Assembly on Tuesday.

Samples taken from outlets within the State would be regularly tested for contaminants.

The Minister, however, said officials had not come across hotels or eateries using discarded parts of cattle carcasses. She informed the House that 120 vacancies at the Food Safety Commissionerate would be filled soon to ensure enough manpower for surveillance and testing.