Citizen Pulse on Common Food Adulterants

(Compiled from collective inputs of 35,000 strong India’s Food Safety Circle)

1. Many fruit vendors use chemicals to ripen the fruits
2. Wax is applied on apples to make them look shinier
3. Malachite green is used to coat vegetable so that they look greener
4. Methanyl yellow is mixed with sweets like jalebi, laddo etc. and also in turmeric powder
5. Turmeric powder is adulterated with non-permitted dyes
6. Palm kernel oil and paraffin is mixed with coconut oil
7. Cooking oil has Genetically Modified (GM) cotton seed oil and GM soya oil mixed in it
8. Red rice is mixed with red oxide powder
9. Milk is adulterated with water, colour, chalk powder and urea
10. Chilli powder is mixed with saw dust
11. Coal tar is mixed in tea leaves

*These inputs have been compiled from the citizen responses in the 35,000+ strong India’s Food Safety circle.*