

## **FDA BLACKLISTS UNREGISTERED FOOD SERVICES**

The Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) has cautioned the public against engaging unregistered food service establishments (FSEs).

The FDA, in a public announcement, said its surveillance activities have noticed the advertisement of unregistered FSEs on social media although they are not registered as stipulated by Section 130 of the Public Health Act 2012, Act 851.

Section 130 states, "A person shall not manufacture for sale, sell, supply or store products regulated under this part except in premises registered for that purpose under this part."

"Operators of food service establishments, including contract caterers, are reminded to regularize their activities with Food and Drugs Authority in accordance with Section 130 of the Public Health Act 2012, Act 851," it added.

A food service establishment, according to the Act, is an operation that stores, prepares, packages, serves, vends, or otherwise provides food for human consumption such as a restaurant, satellite or catered feeding location.

"The general public, including corporate bodies, are advised to only contract the services of and patronize food service establishments that have obtained a valid food hygiene permit from the Food and Drugs Authority.

The FDA cannot guarantee the quality of the operators and the safety of food sold in establishments that do not have valid food hygiene permit," it said in an announcement.

According to the FDA, details of establishments with valid food hygiene permits are published on the FDA's website quarterly and the food hygiene permits of such establishments should always be conspicuously displayed at their premises

"All food services establishments that fail to acquire the required regulatory permit by 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020 would be subjected to requisite regulatory sanctions," it added.

Source-Daily Guide