

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1000

ANSWERED ON:29.04.2016

Junk Food

Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Fatepara Shri Devajibhai Govindbhai;Gavit Dr. Heena Vijaykumar;Mahadik Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Patil Shri Vijaysinh Mohite;Radhakrishnan Shri T.;Satav Shri Rajeev Shankarrao;Venkatesh Babu Shri T.G.

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Health Organisation has made any recommendation regarding packaging norms of junk food, soft drinks, energy drinks and other sugar sweetened beverages, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of his Ministry thereon;
- (b) whether his Ministry has formulated/proposes to formulate a plan to curb junk food and sugar sweetened beverages to control the growing problem of obesity and diabetes among children and adults, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether his Ministry in consultation with the Ministry of Human Resource Development proposes to ban junk food in schools and also adopt the guidelines prepared by National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Hyderabad on obesity caused by junk food and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether his Ministry proposes to adopt the practice of putting warning labels on junk food items and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the further steps taken/being taken by the Government to create awareness about ill effects of junk food?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a): No packaging norms have been developed by World Health Organisation (WHO) for junk food, soft drinks, energy drinks and other sugar sweetened beverages. However, WHO has recently developed guidelines on 'Sugar intake for Adults and Children' and the adverse  
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impact of high sugar in foods. The report was duly considered by the Expert Group of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on Salt, Sugar and Fat while preparing draft report on fat, sugar and salt consumption and its health impact among Indian population.

(b) & (c): 'Junk Food' has not been defined under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and Regulations thereunder. However, FSSAI has issued draft Guidelines titled "Guidelines for making available wholesome, nutritious, safe and hygienic food to school children in India" on 12.10.2015 wherein the availability of most common HFSS (High in Fat, Salt and Sugar) Foods in schools and an area within 50 meters thereof has been restricted/limited. The above guidelines have been shared with the Ministry of Human Resource Development for implementation. Most of the recommendations of the Working Group constituted by the Ministry of Women and Child Development which included National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) experts form part of guidelines prepared by FSSAI

(d): No such proposal is under consideration of the FSSAI at present.

(e): Media campaigns, documentary films, education booklets, stalls at Fairs/Melas /Events and Mass Awareness campaigns, etc are being used for increasing awareness of the stakeholders about various aspects of food safety.

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