

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4138
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD APRIL, 2018**

**USE OF STAPLE PINS, ADHESIVE TAPES AND ZIP LOCKS FOR
SEALING FOOD PACKETS**

4138. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that a large number of food products use staple pins, adhesive tapes and zip locks for sealing food packets;
- (b) whether Government is also aware that using staple pins of food items can cause life threatening injuries, if consumed with food items; and
- (c) if so, the steps Government and the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is taking to completely ban staple pins and adhesive tapes on food items packets?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b): Yes. The Scientific Panel on Contaminants in Food Chain of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has observed that the staple pins used in food packages pose a physical hazards to the consumers.

(c): An order was issued by FSSAI on 18.07.2017 to ban use of staple pins in tea bags by 01-01-2018. However, in view of the representations received from various Tea Associations to allow more time for transition to new technology for manufacturing tea bags, an extension for implementation of said Order has been allowed upto 30.06.2019.