

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3147
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28th MARCH, 2023**

PACKAGED FOOD

3147. SMT. VANDANA CHAVAN:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Indian packaged food is one of the least healthy globally;
- (b) whether Government is taking any steps to monitor and reformulate the products to make them healthier;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government has conducted studies on the growing prevalence of obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases that can be attributed to increasing consumption of unhealthy food in the country?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE**

(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (d): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has been established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import, to ensure availability of safe and quality food for human consumption. FSSAI has notified Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020 prescribing requirements for labelling of packaged food. The Regulation requires display of nutrients and their contribution to Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA) in percentage at the back of the pack as Nutritional Information to enable consumers to make informed choice. It is mandatory for Food Business Operators (FBOs) to label the food package in accordance with these Regulations.

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has informed that several national level surveys like National Family Health Surveys [NFHS 5, 2021], INDIAB study of ICMR (2017); NNMB Rural Survey (2012) and Urban Survey (2017) have indicated increasing rates of overweight, obesity and Non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

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