

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1858
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH DECEMBER, 2023**

PROCESSED AND UNHEALTHY FOODS IN THE COUNTRY

1858 SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether Government has plans to introduce a comprehensive definition of 'healthy foods' for the country so that companies do not have to resort to using their own definitions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, including possible guidelines, separate taxes on unhealthy foods especially those catered towards children, etc.; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (c): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has notified draft Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Claims) Amendment Regulation, 2022 on 13th September 2022 wherein a definition for food High in Fat, Salt and Sugar (HFSS) has been included as mentioned below:

“High fat, sugar, salt (HFSS) food means a processed food product which has high levels of saturated fat or total sugar or sodium. The declared values of these ingredients are such that the product; does not satisfy the value of energy (kcal) from total sugar less than 10 percent of total energy, or from saturated fat 10 percent of total energy, and sodium less than 1 mg/1 kcal.”

Also, FSSAI has notified Food Safety and Standards (Safe food and balanced diets for children in School) Regulations, 2020, wherein the responsibilities of school authorities to ensure and to promote safe Food and balanced diets in and around school premises are defined. Further, this regulation also stipulates that no person shall advertise or market or sell or offer for sale including free sale, or permit sale of, food products high in saturated fat or trans-fat or added sugar or sodium in school campus or to school children in an area within fifty meters from the school gate in any direction.

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