

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2653
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH AUGUST, 2026**

DIFFERENTIAL HEALTH WARNING REQUIREMENTS FOR FOOD PRODUCTS

2653. SHRI KAMAL HAASAN:

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

- (a) whether Government has undertaken a comparative assessment of health warning and labelling requirements for food products manufactured and sold in the country and abroad, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the health warnings or mandatory disclosures required under the regulations of the United States and the European Union, but not under FSSAI regulations;
- (c) whether Government has examined aligning FSSAI health warning and labelling requirements with global standards, including those of the United States and the European Union, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (d): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is mandated to lay down science-based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption. The implementation and enforcement of the Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, 2006 is a shared responsibility between the Central and State Governments.

FSSAI has notified the Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020, which lay down comprehensive provisions relating to the labelling of pre-packaged foods and the same shall be complied by all Food Business Operators (FBOs). The

Schedule-II of these Regulations specifies the warning statements for articles of food and ingredients/additives to be used in food products.

Examination of emerging scientific evidence is a routine process and accordingly, FSSAI undertakes amendments to the regulations, as and when required keeping in view evolving global standards and best practices.

The fundamental labelling requirements for pre-packaged foods are broadly similar across India, the European Union, and the United States. All three regulatory frameworks require essential information such as the name of the food, list of ingredients, nutrition information, allergen declaration, net quantity, manufacturer details, and date marking. While each jurisdiction prescribes certain additional product- or ingredient-specific labelling requirements based on its regulatory priorities and public health considerations, the core labelling principles are largely harmonized.

The Indian, European Union, and United States regulatory frameworks prescribe mandatory warning statements and/or declarations for specified food products and ingredients, such as foods containing aspartame, polyols/sugar alcohols, and added caffeine (where applicable) while the Indian framework additionally requires declarations for certain products categories such as pan masala, supari, and other specified foods, reflecting a more precautionary approach in certain cases.

Further, the provisions prescribed under the Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020 are broadly aligned with the Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Pre-packaged Foods (CXS 1-1985), with suitable modifications to address India's regulatory and public health requirements.
