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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1245 TO BE ANSWERED ON 9TH FEBRUARY. 2018

SUB-STANDARD PACKAGING OF FOODS

1245. SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to bring new norms for pouches, foil containers, bottles and boxes that are used to package food and beverages to address concerns over contamination arising from sub-standard material and regarding the printing on them and to make food companies more accountable;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (c): Norms to ensure the safety of packaged food products are already prescribed under Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has approved revision in these norms to address concerns arising due to use of unsafe materials in the packaging of food and for issuance of draft notification for inviting public comments in this regard. The revised norms include provisions relating to general requirements with respect to printing inks and printed surface of packaging materials and specific requirements with respect to different types of packaging materials including paper & board materials, glass containers, metal & metal alloys and plastic materials which come in contact with food products.

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