

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4608
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23RD MARCH, 2018**

DIET 4 LIFE PROGRAMME

4608. SHRI P. NAGARAJAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has permitted/allowed import of Infant foods by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under its “Diet 4 Life” Programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any prescribed guidelines are being followed to import infant foods into India; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): ‘Diet4Life’ programme is an initiative by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to provide platform for parents to find timely medical support and treatment for metabolic disorders namely Inborn Errors of Metabolism (IEM).

In the absence of standards on food for Inborn Errors of Metabolism (IEM) and hypoallergenic conditions and considering the critical shortage of specialised diets for children with IEM, FSSAI, at the request of medical community and the parent support groups, has permitted as an interim measure, the import and domestic production of specialised diets for IEM and hypoallergenic conditions vide directions dated 2.11.2016 under Section 16(5) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 to ensure that this critical medical requirement could be met. Process of developing standards for such products has also been expedited. All imported foods including infant foods have to comply with the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards (Import) Regulations including due examination of composition, label and claims.

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