GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4926 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2018

Special Programmes for Students

†4926. SHRI MANSHANKAR NINAMA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to protect the health of school going children from the effects of antibiotics, contaminated food products and fast food; and
- (b) the special programmes being run at schools' level to make children aware in this regard?

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) & (b): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has prescribed limits of contaminants, toxins and residues of pesticides, antibiotics etc. in food products through Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011. Standards of Food Products are prescribed in Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011. All food available in the market for human consumption is required to meet the standards and norms prescribed by FSSAI in various regulations. An Expert Committee has also been constituted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for implementation of evidence based strategy for reducing consumption of high fat, sugar & salt foods. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has directed affiliated schools to ensure that junk / fast food is

replaced completely with healthy snacks and carbonated and aerated beverages may be replaced by juices and dairy products (Lassi, Chach, Flavoured milk etc.).

FSSAI has brought out a 'Yellow Book'containing topics such as good food safety practices, personal hygiene and cleanliness habits, eating a balanced diet, packing a wholesome lunchbox, preventing nutritional deficiencies and making healthy choices.

Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development has instituted SwachhVidyalayaPuraskar in 2016 to recognise, inspire and celebrate excellence in water, sanitation and hygiene practices in schools. The Ministry has also issued guidelines on quality, safety and hygiene on school level kitchens to all the States and UTs in order to provide nutritious meal to children under Mid-Day Meal Scheme.
