

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2858
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD AUGUST, 2018**

FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS REGULATIONS (FSSR)

2858. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MONDAL:

SHRI D.K. SURESH:

SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:

SHRI B.N. CHANDRAPPA:

SHRI RAGHAV LAKHANPAL:

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

(a) whether several sweets and snacks products sold in the country follow neither domestic standards under Food Safety and Standards Regulations (FSSR) nor Codex Standards created by UN's Food and Agriculture Organization and World Health Organization (WHO), if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government has issued draft Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2018, if so, details thereof along the objective and the salient features of the said draft;

(c) whether the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) proposes to bring in stricter quality standards for the preparation of sweets and snacks products, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures proposed to enforce such standards along with the times by which said standards will be implemented?

ANSWER

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

(a): Standards of Sweets and Snacks products are not specified under Food Safety and Standards Regulations (FSSR), 2011. However, all the products whose standards even though are not specified under FSSR are required to comply with the Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011; Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011; Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011 and provisions regarding sanitary and hygiene practices prescribed under Schedule IV of Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses), Regulations, 2011 for providing safe and wholesome food to consumers.

Contd.....

Further, the sweets and snacks products are also covered under proprietary food as defined under regulation 2.12 of Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 provided that these are manufactured using the standardised ingredients permitted under the said regulations.

(b): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued notice of draft notification related to Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2018 prior to draft notification for calling comments. The draft regulations aim at establishing requirements for labelling of pre-packaged foods to provide simple, easy to understand information to consumers and to facilitate them in making healthier food choices. Salient features of the said draft regulations are:

- a) defines general and specific labelling requirements such as name, ingredient list, nutritional information, declaration for veg/non-veg foods, food additives, name and complete address of manufacturers, FSSAI logo and license number, Date marking, lot number, declaration of Country of Origin etc.;
- b) prescribes requirements for Front of Pack (FOP) labelling including mentioning of energy, total fat, trans fat, total sugar and salt on FOP along with their per serve percentage (%) contribution to RDA on the label.
- c) prescribes labelling provisions for High Fat, Sugar, Salt (HFSS) foods;
- d) mandatory marking of “Expiry/Use by Date” instead of “Best Before date”.
- e) mandatory declarations including statutory warnings, specific labelling for infant foods, milk & milk products, edible oil and fat products, irradiated foods, fortified foods, organic foods, low gluten and gluten free foods, genetically engineered or modified foods and Alcoholic Beverages, labelling of non-retail containers etc.

(c): Various regulations and provisions applicable in respect of sweets and snacks are constantly reviewed taking into account the latest developments in food science, food consumption pattern, new products and additives, advancement in the processing technology and food analytical methods, and identification of new risks.

(d): The implementation and enforcement of Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, 2006 and Rules and Regulations made thereunder primarily lies with the State/UT Governments. A Food Business Operator (FBO) is required to obtain licence under Section 31 of the FSS Act, 2006 before commencing any food business. It is also the responsibility and liability of FBO under Sections 26 and 27 of the said Act to comply with all relevant provisions of the Act and Rules and Regulations made thereunder.

FSSAI has been issuing advisories to all States/UTs from time to time for effective and rigorous enforcement activities in the States and UTs to ensure the quality and safety of food including sweets and other snack items. To ensure the availability of safe and wholesome food, regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of food products are being carried out by the officials of Food Safety Departments of the respective States/UTs to check compliance of the prescribed standards. In cases where the food samples are found to be non-conforming, recourse is taken to penal provisions specified in Chapter IX of the FSS Act, 2006.

.....