

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1578
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10th FEBRUARY, 2023**

REGULATION ON JUNK FOOD TO CHECK OBESITY

1578. SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:

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

- (a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to regulate the promotion of junk food and fast food being done through target advertisements aimed at children; and
- (b) the reasons for not implementing a “junk food tax” to address the rising rates of obesity in the country?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) & (b): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has informed that to ensure safe and wholesome food for school children, it has notified the Food Safety and Standards (Safe food and balanced diets for children in school) Regulations, 2020.

These regulations place a restriction on sale of foods High in Fat, Salt and Sugar (HFSS) to school children in school canteens/mess premises/hostel kitchens or within 50 meters of the school campus and also a restriction on advertisement of such products in these areas. Regulations aim to encourage schools to adopt a comprehensive program for promoting Safe food and healthy diets amongst school children and to convert school campus into Eat Right School focusing safe and healthy food, local and seasonal food and no food waste as per specified benchmarks.

FSSAI has also notified Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020 prescribing requirements for labelling of packaged food. The Regulation requires display of nutrients and their contribution to Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA) in percentage at the back of the pack as Nutritional Information to enable consumers to make informed choice. It is mandatory for Food Business Operators (FBOs) to label the food package in accordance with these Regulations.
