

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4899
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31st MARCH, 2023**

BAN ON JUNK FOODS/SOFT DRINKS

4899. SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to ban junk foods and soft drinks in school cafeterias and boarding schools and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government also proposes to ban the sale of pre-packaged foods to school children in school canteens, mess and hostel kitchens and also prohibit food manufacturers and food vendors from handing out free samples of low-nutrition food to children in sporting events;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to clamp down advertisements of such food products on school premises or in proximity to educational institutions as per the stipulations cited in the 'Eat right' campaign and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE**

(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (d): 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. Further, it also specifies when marketing foods to children in school premises or campus, the Food Business Operators shall use sponsorship of sporting, school, and other events for children only with food which is not high in saturated fat or trans-fat or added sugar or sodium. 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.

.....