

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2684
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06TH MARCH, 2020**

INCREASED CONTENT OF SALT IN FAST FOOD

**2684. SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL:
SHRI KANAKMAL KATARA:**

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

(a) whether as per the study report of Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) the content of salt and trans fat in fast foods/junk foods, chips/namkeen, burger, pizza, preserved foods etc. has been found 90 per cent more than specified standards and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(b) whether junk food is responsible for heart diseases in the children and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of action taken by the Government for violation of FSSAI standards in fast food/junk food, chips /namkeen, burger, pizza, preserved foods including non-printing of warning labels on packets of such products?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

(a): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has informed that Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) study has alleged that the quantity of salt and fat in the samples tested were higher than the threshold limits proposed in the draft Food Safety and Standards (Labelling & Display) Regulations.

Out of total 33 samples tested in the said study, 19 samples are of 'prepared food' where 'Front- of- Pack' Labelling is not applicable. As far as pre-packaged food items are concerned, the sample size (14 samples) is too small and cannot be considered as representative of pre-packaged food industry in the country.

(b): As informed by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), development of obesity is multi-factorial and eating of junk food and processed food is one of them. Childhood obesity is a risk factor of developing heart diseases and diabetes in later life.

(c): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has notified the draft of Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2019 on 25th June, 2019.

Food Business Operator (FBOs) required to use ingredients standardised under various regulations notified by FSSAI. Violation of these attracts penal action. Separate data w.r.t. samples analysed; found non-conforming and action taken for fast food items like chips/namkeen, burger etc. is not available. However, the consolidated data for samples of all kinds of food analysed, found non-conforming and action taken during 2018-19 is as under:

No. of samples analysed	No. of samples found non-confirming	No. of Civil/ Criminal cases Launched	Convictions	No. of cases in which Penalties imposed / Amount raised
1,06,459	30415	21363	701	12734/ 32,57,78,087