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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3775 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25th MARCH, 2022

LABELLING OF PACKAGED FOODS

3775. SHRI HEMANT SRIRAM PATIL:

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

- (a) whether any steps have been taken to make the nutrition facts label/ food package label compulsory so that the consumers can be guided for purchasing healthy alternative, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has evaluated the global best practices and the trends becoming most effective in informing about the health related damages caused due to packaged food products and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the manner in which the Government is likely to ensure that the Indian food industry complies with the global norms and motivated to work on improving the unhealthy food items in the interest of public health; and
- (d) whether the Government/FSSAI has got any study conducted for evaluating people's perception regarding the warning signs on the labels of packaged food, if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereon?

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 it has notified Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020 regarding requirements for labelling of packaged food. Section related to nutritional information requires display of nutrients and their contribution to Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA) in percentage 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.

Department of Health Research has informed that National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad took up a study to assess the effectiveness of different formats of front-of-pack labelling (FOPL) on packaged food product and its effectiveness in communicating the unhealthiness of certain foods.

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