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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4761 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28th MARCH, 2025

USE OF FOOD INGREDIENTS

4761. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the differential use of food ingredients which is the leading cause of impact on human health;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering stricter regulations/norms to ensure uniform global standards for food products sold in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent the use of harmful additives such as Titanium Dioxide which are banned in other countries?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

(a) to (d): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is fully committed to ensure the availability of safe food products to the consumers across the country. For this, FSSAI works towards development of science based and internationally benchmarked standards of food products. Since the inception of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, a total of 22 technical regulations related to safety and quality standards of different food commodities have been notified which includes Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulation, 2011. Food Business Operators are mandated to comply to these regulations.

These regulations permitted additives in respective categories of food based on the scientific advice provided by the independent risk assessment bodies i.e. Scientific Panels and Scientific Committee considering the country specific requirements.

These regulations are harmonised with internationally accepted Codex standards. Standard for titanium dioxide [which is a Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) additive] is placed under Chapter 3 of Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulation, 2011.

Further, FSSAI through State/Union Territories and its Regional Offices conducts regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of various food products including spices to check compliance with the quality and safety parameters and other requirements as laid down under Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, 2006, and regulations made thereunder.
