

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 417*
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20TH MARCH, 2026**

USE OF MALTODEXTRIN IN FOOD PRODUCTS

***417. SHRI M K RAGHAVAN:**

Will the **MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of reports indicating excessive use of Maltodextrin in processed and packaged food products such as health drinks, infant foods, snacks, bakery items and dietary supplements in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether studies have indicated any potential health concerns arising from the high consumption of Maltodextrin, particularly among children, diabetic patients and persons suffering from lifestyle related diseases, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted or proposes to conduct any scientific assessment regarding the extent of the use of Maltodextrin in processed food products available in the domestic markets, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government proposes to review or reduce the permitted levels of the use of Maltodextrin in food products in line with regulations adopted by other countries to promote healthier food formulations, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA
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(a) to (d): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is mandated to lay down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption and FSSAI standards are uniformly applicable across the country.

The food safety standards are made based on the scientific opinion provided by independent risk assessment bodies i.e. Scientific Panels and Scientific Committee and are harmonized with internationally accepted Codex standards.

Maltodextrin is a permitted ingredient as per Food Safety and Standards Regulations, used in several food categories such as bakery products, supplements for children, infant milk products, etc. Maltodextrin is allowed to be used under Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and is globally recognized as safe.

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), under the Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is apex body in India for formulation, coordination promotion of biomedical research and to conduct, coordinate and implement medical research for the benefit of the Society. As per ICMR, frequent consumption of ultra-processed foods is linked to insulin resistance, obesity, and metabolic syndrome and may even alter gut microbiota. ICMR has not carried out any study on potential health concerns arising from the high consumption of Maltodextrin.
