

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1080
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH JULY, 2026**

DIFFERENTIAL USE OF INGREDIENTS IN FOOD PRODUCTS

1080. 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 ingredient by manufacturers in products sold in India and abroad leading to adverse health impacts, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government is considering stricter regulations to ensure uniform global standards for food products sold in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to prevent the use of harmful additives in this regard?

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

(a) to (c): 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. The implementation and enforcement of the Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, 2006 is a shared responsibility between the Central and State Governments.

The Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 prescribe the standards for various food products, including the food additives permitted for use in different categories of foods and their maximum permissible limits. The permitted additives are specified based on scientific risk assessment carried out by the independent bodies i.e. Scientific Panels and the Scientific Committee of FSSAI, taking into account available scientific evidence, dietary exposure and country-specific requirements.

The food additives permitted for use are listed in Appendix A of the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011. Any additive not specified therein is not permitted for use in food. These Regulations are substantially harmonized with the internationally accepted Codex General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA) adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Further, Risk assessment is a continuous process that takes place in view of the global best practices. As and when hazards are identified, appropriate measures are taken to safeguard public health.

Food standards are kept under continuous review based on new scientific evidence, technological needs, risk assessments and internationally recognized best practices. Whenever warranted, the standards and permitted limits of food additives are revised to ensure the protection of public health. In case of any deviations, appropriate regulatory and punitive actions have been taken against the defaulting Food Business Operators (FBOs) as per the provisions of the FSS Act, 2006 and the rules and regulation made thereunder.
