WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

FSSAI advisory on advertising of food supplements

*367. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has advised the Advertisement Standard Council of India (ASCI) to ask its members to refrain from making tall claims about their food supplements on television without adequate scientific justification;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of ASCI in this regard;

(c) whether Government proposes to penalise those companies whose claims on food supplements are not supported by adequate scientific justification; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) and (b) The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has requested the Advertisement Standards Council of India (ASCI):

(i) To undertake comprehensive monitoring of advertisements appearing with respect to food & beverages (F&B) across various media segments *i.e.* print media, electronic, internet, social media etc.;

(ii) To bring to FSSAI's notice any F&B advertisement that violates the FSS Act and regulations, making unsubstantiated claims and misleading the consumers, action taken by ASCI and further action required to be taken by the FSSAI;

(iii) To examine the advertisements concerning F&B products (most of which are scientifically unsubstantiated) being endorsed by celebrities, with a view to requesting the celebrities to restrain from endorsing such products; and

(iv) Provide information to FSSAI in the prescribed format about Media Segment carrying the advertisement (Print, Electronic, internet, Social Media, etc.), product's name, Company's name, claim and Name of the Celebrity endorsing the Product.

No response has been received from ASCI in this regard.

(c) and (d) Section 24 of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 provides for

restrictions on advertisement of any food which misleads or contravenes the provisions of the Act or Rules and the Regulations made thereunder. Further, Sections 53 of the FSS Act contains penalty provisions for misleading advertisements.

Purchase of newspapers and magazines for domestic air passengers

†*368. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names and numbers of daily newspapers and magazines in English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Bangla, Gujarati, Kannada and Malayalam language being purchased for domestic air passengers; and

(b) whether purchase of newspapers and magazines in Indian languages except English has been stopped in domestic flights, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION: (SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU PUSAPATI): (a) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has not issued any regulation in respect of distribution of news papers/magzines to air travelers. Distribution of newspapers/magzines is a commercial aspect of airline business and is prerogative of airlines. Therefore, details are not maintained by the Central Government. However, the details of newspapers and magazines in English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Bangla, Gujarati, Kannada and Malayalam Language provided by Scheduled/Regional Carriers for domestic air passengers are as under:

(i) Air India - Statement-I (*See* below).

(ii) Jet Airways and Jet Lite - Statement-II (*See* below).

(iii) Indigo does not purchase daily newspapers and magazine for domestic air passengers in any of the mentioned languages.

(iv) Go Air - Times of India (09 per flight), Indian express (03 per flight), Business Standard (05 per flight), Economic times (07 per flight), Navbharath Times flights from BOM (02 per flight) and Telegraph For Flights from CCU (03 per Flights).

(v) LEPL Projects Ltd. (Air Costa) does not purchase any magazine or newspaper for passengers. However, they supply their own in flight magazine "Happy Flying" to all passengers on board the Aircraft.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.