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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2272 TO BE ANSWERED ON 16TH MARCH, 2021

USAGE OF PLASTIC CONTAINERS BY HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

2272 # SHRI ANIL BALUNI:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that home delivery in plastic containers by the hotels and restaurants is on the rise in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government has issued any guidelines in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether home delivery in plastic containers likely to harm the health of citizens, whether Government is taking action in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (e): Food Safety and Standards Authority (FSSAI) has informed that it has not prescribed any restrictions on use of plastic containers for delivery of food by hotels and restaurants. Further, FSSAI has notified the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging) Regulations, 2018 which prescribe standards for different packaging materials including plastics, used for the packaging of food articles. The plastics manufactured as per laid down standards and used properly for intended purpose do not pose any harmful health effect to the consumers and can be used safely for packing of foods.

Implementation and enforcement of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 primarily lies with State/UT Governments. Regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and sampling of food products including prepared foods are being carried out by the Food Safety Officers of States/UTs and action is taken as per the provisions of FSS Act, 2006 against the defaulting Food Business Operators.