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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2193 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22nd MARCH, 2022

GUIDELINES FOR PACKAGING OF FOOD AND OTHER PRODUCTS

2193. DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to introduce guidelines and regulations to indicate food, food substances and edibles on the packaging of food, fast food, juice and drinkable products which are harmful and/or addictive for children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government has undertaken or plans to commission a study which evaluates the impact of such indicators on food packaging on behavioural changes in parents and children while purchasing such food products which may be harmful or addictive for children, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

- (a) & (b) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has informed that it has notified the Food Safety and Standards (Labeling and Display) Regulations, 2020 wherein, warning provisions as "not recommended for children" are stipulated for artificial sweeteners, caffeinated beverages etc. Further, the Food Safety and Standards (Safe food and balanced diets for children in school) Regulations, 2020 specifies that "No person shall advertise or market or sell or offer for sale including free sale, or permit sale of, food products high in saturated fat or trans-fat or added sugar or sodium in school campus or to school children in an area within fifty meters from the school gate in any direction."
- (c) Department of Health Research has informed that National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad has undertaken a study to assess the effectiveness of different formats of front-of-pack labelling (FOPL) on packaged food product and its effectiveness in communicating the unhealthiness of certain foods.