

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3428

ANSWERED ON:16.04.2008

SALE OF JUNK FOOD

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Yadav Shri Anirudh Prasad (Sadhu);Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

- (a) whether the sale of junk food is increasing in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its impact on the health of children; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) As per information available, there are few studies to indicate a positive correlation between consumption of junk food and obesity leading to diet related chronic non-communicable diseases.

(c) Government is making efforts to discourage consumption of junk foods including carbonated beverages and make people aware of nutritious and healthy foods.The Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare has written to Health Minister of all States & UTs to consider issuing instructions for withdrawal of junk food and carbonated drinks from school and College canteens. Letters have also been written to chief Minister of all States and UTs to seriously consider issuing instructions to Vice Chancellors of all Universities including Medical and Agricultural Universities of their respective States for withdrawal of junk food and carbonated drinks from canteens of educational institutes.