

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1141
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2011
SCHOOL CANTEENS
Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a need to improve children's nutrition by setting health standards for snacks and beverages sold in school canteens in the country including Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT(SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a) to (c): The Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI), a statutory body under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, has proposed to undertake a project for development of guidelines for making available quality and safe foods in schools and has invited proposals in this regard.

Further, to discourage consumption of Junk / fast foods in schools and colleges, Minister of Health and Family Welfare has requested Health Ministers of all the States/UTs and Ministry of Human Resource Development to consider issuing instructions for withdrawing of junk food/fast food and carbonated drinks from school and colleges. Also letters have been written to Chief Ministers of all States to consider issuing instructions to Vice Chancellors of Universities including Medical and Agricultural Universities for withdrawing of junk food/fast food and carbonated drinks from schools and colleges. Under School Health Programme, health education session and counseling on nutrition are given to cultivate healthy eating habits, to encourage physical activity and promote consumption of balanced diet in order to prevent both under- nutrition and overweight in students.