

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:71

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2013

FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS AUTHORITY

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Chitthan Shri N.S.V.

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

- (a) whether the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has recently issued new guidelines to all the food manufacturing companies relating to sale of new or existing proprietary food products;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has consulted the food industry and other stakeholders in the matter before issue of the guidelines;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the industry and other stakeholders in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to monitor and regulate the rapid growth of functional food products?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.71 FOR 1ST MARCH, 2013

Yes, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued a new advisory on 11.12.2012 relating to sale of new or existing proprietary food products. As per Section-22 of the Food Safety and Standards Act-2006, "no person shall manufacture, distribute, sell or import any novel food, genetically modified articles of food, irradiated food, organic foods, foods for special dietary uses, functional foods, nutraceuticals, health supplements, proprietary foods and such other articles of food which the Central Government may notify in this behalf". As on date, there is no standard for these food items in India. Hence, new advisory has been issued in this regard. This advisory has been drafted after detailed consultations. It has been made mandatory for the Food Business Operators to obtain "No Objection Certificate" (NOC) from FSSAI before manufacturing, distributing, selling or importing functional food products.