

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:293

ANSWERED ON:06.12.2013

BAN ON SALE OF JUNK FOOD

Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) the number of incidents of food poisoning due to unhygienic food served in the canteens of schools reported in the country particularly in Maharashtra during the last one year and the current year, State/ UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Delhi High Court had directed the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to frame guidelines on banning sale of junk food and aerated drinks in and around educational institutions and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has framed certain guidelines in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which the said guidelines are likely to be notified?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a): As per available information, 3 incidents of food poisoning due to unhygienic food served in the canteens of schools were reported in Maharashtra during the year 2012 and 2013. No data on the incidents of food poisoning due to unhygienic food served in the canteens of schools in the country, is centrally maintained.

(b) to (e) : At present, this matter is sub-judice in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. FSSAI is complying with the directions given by the Hon'ble Court from time to time. In this context, this Ministry has also requested the Chief Ministers and the Health Ministers of all States/UTs and the Minister of Human Resources Development to consider issuing appropriate directions to the schools and colleges for withdrawing foods high in saturated fat and carbonated drinks from their canteens and promoting healthy food habits, and for making the children aware of the benefits of consumption of fruits, vegetables and whole grains.