

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3355  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2014  
JUNK FOOD  
Devi Smt. Veena

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

- (a) whether the Government has defined `Junk Food` under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the consumption of Junk Food has been increasing continuously and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of some recent studies/reports about the adverse effect of Junk Food on the health of the people and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has imposed/proposes to impose ban on sale of junk food in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the corrective steps taken/ being taken by the Government including launching awareness programmes in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

- (a): "Junk Food" has not been defined under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.
- (b): No such data is maintained centrally.
- (c): The Government is aware of the reports appearing in the media about the findings of effects of Junk Food. A study conducted by the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Indian Council of Medical Research, Hyderabad on Assessment of ill-effects of consumption of Carbonated Water beverages (CWBs) on health of adolescents and young Adults, showed higher increments of body fat in young consumers.
- (d): At present, no such proposal is under consideration in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- (e): The stakeholders are made aware of the food safety through media campaigns, documentary films, educational booklets, stalls at Fairs/ Melas/ Events and Mass Awareness campaigns.