

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 550
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2025

REGULATION OF HFSS FOOD LABELLING

550. SHRI SRIBHARAT MATHUKUMILLI:

Will the Minister of **CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of broad categories of packaged food products in the country that are High in Fat, Salt or Sugar (HFSS);
- (b) whether the Government has assessed their share in overall processed food consumption and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed the effectiveness of Front-of-Package Labelling (FoPL) in conveying nutritional risks to consumers and if so, the key findings of such reviews or consultations;
- (d) the comparison of India's labelling framework with international best practices such as the use of warning labels in countries like Chile and Mexico, especially in terms of consumer understanding and public health outcomes;
- (e) whether the Government intends to adopt stricter FoPL norms including warning labels for HFSS foods, particularly those targeted at children along with the timelines proposed for finalising and implementing such regulations; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI B.L.VERMA)

(a) to (b) : Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has notified the Draft Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) amendment Regulation, 2020 related to Front of Pack Nutritional Labelling (FOPNL) and High fat, sugar, salt (HFSS) etc. on 13th September 2022.

In addition, FSSAI has notified the draft notification on 17th February 2025 mentioning that “the information regarding per serve percentage (%) contribution to Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) be given in bold letters with relatively increased font size for added sugar, saturated fat and sodium content.”

FSSAI monitors labels and advertisements for misleading health claims and regularly inspects food products across India, including rural, urban, and e-commerce sectors. The regulatory authority also enforces sugar disclosure norms through the Labelling and Display Regulations, 2020, which help assess the market presence and consumer exposure to high-sugar foods.

(c) to (d) : The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has informed that they have commissioned IIM Ahmedabad to conduct a study on Front of Package Labeling (FOPL) to assess consumer preferences for different labeling systems.

The Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA) conducted India's first large-scale randomized controlled trial (RCT) involving over 20,000 participants across rural and urban areas to evaluate consumer understanding and impact of the front-of-pack labelling (FoPL).

(e) to (f) : The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has informed that they have draft notified FSS (Labelling and Display) amendment Regulation, 2022 on 13th September 2022 as Front of Pack Nutrition Labelling (FoPNL) Model. The draft received more than 14,000 comments from various stakeholders including food business organisations.
