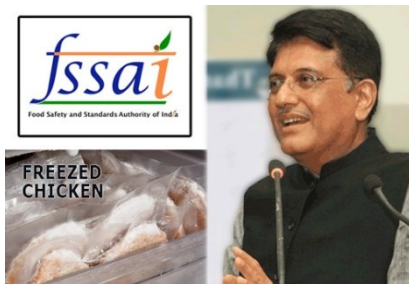




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New Delhi, Dec 5 (KNN) The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal has said that Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) doesn't have any information about the impact of imported chicken legs from US on people's health.

Replying to a question raised by AK Chinraj and Shrirang Appa Barne, MPs from Namakkal in Tamil Nadu and Pune respectively.

They asked whether the Government has assessed the impact of consumption of highly frozen chicken on the health of people, if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the other steps taken by the health of people, if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the other steps taken by the Government to protect the Indian poultry sector?

FSSAI has prescribed standards for fresh or chilled or frozen poultry meat and the products complying with these standards are considered to be safe for human consumption, the Commerce Minister said adding that the products complying with these standards are considered to be safe for human consumption.

However, in a written reply to the question, Goyal said, "FSSAI has no information available on the assessment of the impact of consumption of highly frozen chicken on the health of the people."

Talking to KNN India, Sagar Kurade, immediate past president of All India Food Processors' Association (AIFPA) said importing chicken legs or edible items into India from anywhere in the world is not possible until and unless the items are as per the prescribed standards of FSSAI.

"Any food that is being imported, exported, produced in India, it has to be under FSSAI standards. Be it a chicken leg or any edible product, they can be imported in India with an FSSAI registration," he said.

In the April-September period, chicken legs imports were 21,312 dollars compared with 80,464 dollars in the entire 2018-19.

The government on Wednesday ruled out any reports on the adverse effect on the domestic poultry sector due to import of chicken legs from the US to India.

"No report of adverse effect on the domestic poultry sector including Namakal district in Tamil Nadu, due to import of chicken legs from the United States to India, has been received in the ministry," Goyal had said in reply to another question on whether the domestic poultry sector has been adversely affected due to the import of chicken legs from the United States, especially in the Namakal district of Tamil Nadu.