

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:47  
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2006  
ILL EFFECTS OF CARBONATED SOFT DRINKS  
Jagannath Dr. M.,Jindal Shri Naveen

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the ill effects on account of consumption of carbonated soft drinks on the health of the people and on youngsters in particular;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up any expert group to examine the whole matter;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to make public aware of ill effects of such drinks and ensure proper health care of children?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 47 FOR 26TH JULY, 2006

As per information available, Government has not conducted any specific study with regard to ill effects of consumption of soft drinks on the health of the people.

A Committee of National experts has been constituted in January, 2005, under the Chairmanship of Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), to provide guidance about the presence and health risks of pesticide residues in sugar, a component of soft drinks. Three meetings of the Committee have been held so far.

Efforts are being made by Government to make people aware of nutritious and healthy foods and to avoid junk foods because of their harmful effects.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has also prepared IEC materials advising avoidance of junk foods. The National Institute of Nutrition has developed dietary guidelines for Indians where it has been suggested that free sugar should be used sparingly.