

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4292
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2008
DEVELOPMENT OF MOSQUITO PROOF COOLERS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

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

- (a) whether the National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) has developed mosquito-proof coolers; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The new mosquito-proof desert cooler has been designed by National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) in such manner as to prevent egg-laying by mosquitoes in the water tank. It has been attempted to restrict the entry of mosquitoes in the water tank of the cooler by way of completely covering the water tank with a metal sheet, half of which is fixed and other half has a lid fitted with handle to open it. The metal sheet has three openings below each side shutter of the cooler and these openings are covered with fine wire mesh to prevent entry of mosquitoes in the water tank, but to allow water return back to the tank. The water tank of the cooler has provision for water inlet as well as for overflow pipes, which are also fitted with fine wire mesh.

The advantage of mosquito-proof desert cooler over the conventional cooler is that it prevents prolific breeding of mosquitoes like aedes aegypti, which transmit dengue, chickungunya and other mosquito-borne diseases.