GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2530
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2010
WARNING ON COLD ENERGY DRINKS
Pratap Narayanrao Shri Sonawane;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make it mandatory for the manufacturers of cold and energy drinks to mention the names of various chemicals and other ingredients on their labels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes mandatory warnings related to harmful ingredients present in such drinks and the hon`ble Supreme Court has issued orders in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other corrective measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI)

(a) & (b) The labelling provisions prescribed under PFA Rules require name of ingredients in descending order of their composition by weight or volume as the case may be, given on the label of all packaged food including drinks. It also provides that in case of food additives, the class title shall be used together with specific name or recognised International Numbering System.

However, in case of liquid products marketed in bottle, if such bottle is intended to be reused for refilling, the requirement of list of ingredient shall be exempted, but the nutritional information shall be given on the label. It is also provided that in case of such glass bottles manufactured after 19th March, 2009 the list of ingredients and nutritional information shall be given on the bottle.

(c) to (e) The presence of any ingredient in beverages are regulated by the standards and regulations laid down under PFA Act, 1954 and Rules, 1955. Any violations of these provisions are punishable under the said Act. No direction in this regard have been received from the Hon'ble Supreme Court.