

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4596  
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2010  
USE OF ASBESTOS  
Choudhry Smt. Shruti

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

- (a) whether use of asbestos has been banned in most of the countries because of its cancer causing effects;
- (b) if so, the reasons for which even today some States in the country are using asbestos cement pressure pipes in water supply schemes, particularly, in rural areas;
- (c) whether the Union Government has sought any report from the State Governments in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN)

- (a) Some countries have banned the use of asbestos for certain health hazards.
- (b) From the available literature, there does not appear to be any health hazard from asbestos cemented pipes used for drinking water.
- (c) to (e) Do not arise.