GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2124 ANSWERED ON:06.08.2010 USE OF ARTIFICIAL SWEETNERS Bhujbal Shri Sameer

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

(a) the varieties of artificial sweetners available in the market for consumption;

(b) whether these artificial sweetners are approved by the Government as regard to their safety for the human consumption;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith their permissible limit for diabeties;

(d) whether the Government proposes to educate the people about the positive/ adverse affects of these sweetners; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) The Food Safety and Standards Authority of Indian has informed that the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Rules, 1955 provide restriction on use and sale of artificial sweeteners. The details of permitted artificial sweeteners alongwith maximum permissible limit under PFA Rules are given under Rule 47 of PFA Rules, 1955. The permitted artificial sweeteners with their permissible limits under PFA Rules are considered safe. There is no separate limit for diabetics.

In this connection, the Drugs Controller General (India) has informed that artificial sweeteners when used in drug formulations are regulated under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 made thereunder. Use of artificial sweeteners in drug formulations are permitted after being satisfied that such use in the formulations will be safe. Various artificial sweeteners like aspartame, sucralose, neotame, acesulfame potassium, etc. are permitted to be used in the country for drug formulations.