

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1692

ANSWERED ON:19.11.2010

CONTAMINATED HONEY

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

- (a) whether according to a study conducted by the Centre for Science and Environment, most honey brands being sold in the country contain varying amount of antibiotics and pesticide residues which have adverse effect on health;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken against those found guilty;
- (c) whether the Food Safety Authority of India has laid down any norms and parameters in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken/ proposed by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

- (a) & (b) : The Centre for Science and Environment in its study report on antibiotics in Honey published in September, 2010 has stated that, out of 12 samples of honey analyzed by them, 11 samples contain antibiotics out of which 2 samples are of imported honey. The implementation of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act & Rules is carried out by the states/UT Government who take action in case of any violation of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955.
- (c) & (d) : The standards of honey have been prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Rules, 1955, wherein antibiotics and pesticide residues are not permitted.
- (e) : Advisory has been issued to all State Govts/Uts. for drawing samples and to take necessary action in case of violation of prescribed parameters.