

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:149

ANSWERED ON:19.11.2010

NATIONAL ANTIBIOTICS POLICY

Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

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

- (a) Whether the Government has taken note of the excessive use of antibiotics in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a National Antibiotics Policy;
- (d) if so, the details alongwith the objectives and the salient features of the proposed policy; and
- (e) the time by which the said policy is likely to be finalised and implemented?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 149 FOR 19TH NOVEMBER, 2010

(a) & (b) Anti-biotic resistance is a universal evolutionary phenomenon, as bacterias are surviving both in environment and human bodies. Within the human body, due to prolonged use of anti-biotics, bacteria may start various defensive mechanism like mutation, conjugation, transduction or transformation, etc. so that it can counter the assault of anti-biotic, resulting in anti-biotic resistance. Irrational use of anti-biotic and over-prescription of anti-biotic are also other contributing factors for anti-biotic resistance.

(c ) to (e) Government has constituted a Task Force with the following terms of reference:

1. To review the current situation regarding manufacture, use and misuse of anti-biotics in the country;
2. To recommend the design for creation of a National Surveillance System for anti-biotic resistance.
3. To initiate studies documenting prescription patterns and establish a monitoring system for the same.
4. To enforce and enhance regulatory provisions for use of anti-biotics in human, veterinary and industrial use.
5. To recommend specific interventions/measures such as rational use of anti-biotics and anti-biotics policies in hospitals which can be implemented as early as possible.

The Task Force is expected to submit its report by month end, and the future course of action will depend on the examination of its recommendations.