

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3970

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2010

QUALITY OF SWEETS

Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Ramasubbu Shri S.;Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Shekhar Shri Neeraj

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

- (a) whether sweets including canned rasgullas have been reportedly found to have micro-organisms and metals which can cause food-borne diseases;
- (b) if so, the details and the facts in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has laid down any standards to ensure the quality of sweets being sold across the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken/proposed by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) An NGO has published a report that, inter-alia states that comparative test on 8 brands of canned rasgullas available in the market was carried out, out of which 3 brands did not conform to the Bacterial Count Test as per Indian Standards prescribed by Bureau of Indian Standards. The limits of metal contaminants like tin, lead, and cadmium found in all the brands of rasgullas were below the maximum permissible limits prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955.

(c) to (e) Under the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Rules, 1955, sweets are proprietary foods. The proprietary food products are to comply with the provisions laid down under rule 37-A of PFA Rules, 1955 including labelling requirements specified under these rules and all other regulatory provisions specified in these rules and in Appendixes.

Non-compliance with these provisions is punishable under the provisions of the PFA Act 1954 and Rules, 1955, in respect of samples lifted by the enforcement staff of the States/UTs. The enforcement staff of the States/UTs, is responsible for monitoring and implementation of the provisions of PFA Act, 1954 and PFA Rules, 1955 in the country.