

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5099
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2010
CANCER DUE TO RADIOACTIVE ELEMENTS IN CEMENT
Elangovan Shri T.K.S.

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

- (a) whether exposure to radioactive elements present in cement fly ash leads to high incidence of lung cancer;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; 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) to (e):- The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has not carried out any study on fly ash. However, studies in the United States indicate that fly ash dust contains radioactive materials like, radium, thorium, uranium which may cause cancerous changes in the lung.