

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3062  
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011  
EFFECTS OF TOXIC ELEMENTS IN DRINKS  
Dhanaplan Shri K. P.

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

- (a) the details of the ill effects of the high level of toxic elements such as caffeine, insecticides/pesticides in cold/soft/energy drinks on the health of the people;
- (b) whether the Supreme Court has given directions to the Government in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government on such directions and the result thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a) The permissible Maximum Residues Limits (MRLs) for various pesticides in various food articles such as cold/soft/energy drinks have been laid down under chapter 2 of the Food Safety And Standards (Contaminants, Toxins And Residues) Regulations, 2011, which came into force on 5.8.2011. If these constituents are consumed beyond their permitted levels, they are likely to have adverse effects like nervousness, irritability, anxiety, insomnia, cancer etc.

(b) to (d): The Supreme Court in Writ Petition No. 681 of 2004- Centre for Public Interest Litigation Vs. Union of India has directed the petitioner to represent his case before the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). The petitioner has submitted his representation to the Scientific Panel of FSSAI. The matter is presently being examined by the Panel.