

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4969
ANSWERED ON:02.09.2011
TOXICITY LEVELS IN TOYS
Gaddigoudar Shri P.C.

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up an expert Committee to test toxicity levels and harmful elements in toys in the country;
- (b) if so, the findings of the Committee; and
- (c) the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government on the basis of findings?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) An Expert Committee has been constituted by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to look into the presence of harmful elements in toys under the Chairpersonship of Dr. Y. K. Gupta, Professor of Pharmacology, AIIMS. Under the guidance of this Committee a study has been initiated to examine the presence of some heavy metals and phthalates in the plastic toys in the market. The SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) for all various components have been finalized and the validation exercise involving seven national laboratories has been completed. A total of 400 samples have been analysed at the National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad and National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad. Based on initial results Lead level has been found to be high in some of the samples predominantly from the Local Rural toys in South India which is subject to cross validation.