

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1905
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2011
CONTAMINATION IN HONEY
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the presence of high level of antibiotics and pesticides in well known brands of honey available in the market, as per certain laboratory test;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is taking any steps to ban the sale of said honey and its products; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): The analytical report of some brands of honey collected from local market by the Central Food Laboratories for the purpose of collecting scientific data to arrive at a decision has revealed presence of antibiotics.
- (c) & (d): The standards of honey have been prescribed under the Food Safety and Standards Regulations, 2011, wherein antibiotics are not allowed in honey. Violation of provisions of food regulations attracts penal action. The State/UT. Governments have been advised to exercise strict vigil and take punitive action wherever samples are found adulterated due to antibiotics / contamination.