

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2869  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011  
VISIT OF USFDA DELEGATES  
Kumar Shri P.

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the United States Food and Drug Administration sent a team of aquaculture experts to assess India's overall control of veterinary drug residues in products intended for markets in United States of America;
- (b) if so, whether the inspection was in response to concerns expressed by the Southern Shrimp Alliance over significant increase in shrimp shipments from Indian exporters;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the USFDA team had completed its assessment and sent the report; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) Yes Madam.

(b) & (c) The USFDA team officials visited India during 26th April 2010 to 07th May 2010 to evaluate the measures adopted by the Government and seafood processors and aquaculture producers to control the chemotherapeutic residues in aquacultured products.

(d) & (e) The Mission had sent their final report on 28th February 2011 and the major finding in the report is that India's control of chemotherapeutic residues is focused on laboratory testing and there is no dedicated foods safety training and inspection programme or scheme for aquaculture hatcheries, feed and farms. The USFDA suggested the following: -

# Training government, industry, and other on Good Aquaculture Practice (GAqP) or Best Management Practice (BMP) preventive measures for food safety,

# Training hatcheries, nurseries, and growout pond farmers and technicians on these preventive measures,

# Requiring records of all probiotics, chemicals and antibiotics used,

# Monitoring or conducting inspections at hatcheries, nurseries, and growout ponds,

# Registering and inspecting feed manufacturers that includes a verification testing programme for both domestically produced and imported feed.

As per the USFDA suggestion, MPEDA implemented/organised four training programmes for the trainers viz. officers of MPEDA, State Fisheries Department, leading hatchery operators and farmers, representatives of fisheries colleges of different regions, on Good Aquaculture Practices at four centres viz. Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa during April, 2011 for the benefit of aquaculture farmers and other stake-holders.