

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2132

ANSWERED ON:24.08.2012

LABELLING OF GM FOOD

Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to amend the Food Safety and Standard Act/Rules and incorporate labelling of every package containing genetically modified food mandatory in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether imported GM foods are flooding the domestic markets now these days;
- (d) if so, the extent to which such amendments are likely to check the flooding of such products; and
- (e) the details of the mechanism set up by the Government to check violation of such amended norms?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a) & (b): No such proposal is under consideration of the Government. Genetically modified (GM) Food is covered under Section 22 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. That portion of the Section relating to the GM Food has not been notified yet. However, Section 23(1) deals with the packaging & labelling of foods which envisages that no person shall manufacture, distribute, sell or expose for sale or dispatch or deliver to any agent or broker for the purpose of sale, any packaged food products which are not marked and labelled in the manner as may be specified by regulations.

Provided that the labels shall not contain any statement, claim, design or device which is false or misleading in any particular concerning the food products contained in the package or concerning the quantity or the nutritive value implying medicinal or therapeutic claims or in relation to the place of origin of the said food products.

(c): No such report has been received.

(d) & (e): Do not arise.