

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2109
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2012
CONSUMPTION OF SALT AND SUGAR
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Health Organisation (WHO) has urged the Government to raise awareness about the need to reduce the per capita consumption of salt and sugar in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government is proposing to issue directions to various companies engaged in manufacturing of food products in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) & (b): Yes. The Fifty-fifth World Health Assembly called on WHO to develop a global strategy on diet, physical activity and health (WHA55.23).

The overall goal of the Global Strategy on diet, Physical Activity is to promote and protect health by guiding the development of an enabling environment for sustainable actions at individual, community, national and global levels which, when taken together, will lead to reduced disease and death rates related to unhealthy dietary patterns and physical inactivity. WHO has urged guidance from the Member States on the formulation of guidelines, norms, standards and other policy-related measures and to identify and disseminate information on evidence-based interventions, policies and structures that are effective in promoting, among other aspects, health diets in countries and communities. Guidance on reduction in salt consumption by the population and individuals is an example.

(c) & (d): Under National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, CVD and Stroke (NPCDCS), no such actions have been taken so far.