

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1326
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2012
NICOTINE AND FLUORIDE IN TOOTH PASTE
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

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

- (a) the content of nicotine and fluoride permissible in tooth paste being sold in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has taken note of presence of higher than permissible content of nicotine and fluoride in various brands of tooth paste being sold in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the inquiry conducted in this regard;
- (d) the number of cases of higher content of nicotine and fluoride in tooth paste reported and action taken against the offenders during the last three years and the current year;and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to ensure that the tooth pastes being sold in the country are as per the laid down standards?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (e) Under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 tooth pastes are required to conform to the specifications laid down from time to time by the Bureau of Indian standards. These Rules provide that the fluoride content in tooth paste shall not be more than 1000 parts per million (PPM). Further, the use of the tobacco in tooth paste and tooth powder was prohibited through a Gazette notification G.S.R 444(E) dated 30.04.1992 issued by the Government of India. In this regard, the Delhi Institute of Pharmaceutical Science and Research (DIPSAR) had published a study report on the presence of fluoride and nicotine in certain brands of tooth pastes in the country. As the regulatory control over the manufacture of cosmetics is exercised by the State Drugs Control authorities appointed by the State/UT Governments, the extracts of the report were forwarded to them for necessary action as per the provisions of the law. As per the information made available by some of the State Drug Control authorities, the samples of tooth pastes tested by them did not show the presence of nicotine.