GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6011 ANSWERED ON:03.05.2013 CONSUMPTION OF SOFT AND ENERGY DRINKS Patel Shri Devji

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

(a) whether certain cases of death due to consumption of soft and other energy drinks have been reported from various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether the Government has taken note of a number of studies which state that consumption of soft and energy drinks leads to various health ailments including cancer, diabetes and other health problems;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the standards and regulations laid down in respect of these drinks in the country; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for proper compliance of the above standards and regulations and spread awareness about the ill effects of consumption of soft and energy drinks?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ABU HASEM KHAN CHOUDHURY)

(a) to (c) No such cases have been reported to the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.

(d) The Regulations 2.10.6 of Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 and Table '8' of Appendix A prescribe the standards and limits of the various permitted additives for carbonated cold drinks including soft drinks.

The standards for caffeinated beverages have been drawn up and the same are in the process of notification. However, NOC is issued to the food business operators dealing in energy drinks, specifying the limit of caffeine and labelling requirement thereon.

(e) Under FSS Act/Rules/Regulations, it is mandatory for the food business operators to comply with these standards. FSS Act/Rules/Regulation are implemented by State Government/ Union Territories. Accordingly, samples are drawn regularly by State/UT Government and action is taken against the offenders in cases where samples are found to be non-conforming to the notified standards.