

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1899
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2013
IODIZED SALT
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Iodized Salt Coverage Study conducted by a leading international organisation claims more than fifty per cent of the rural population of the country still consumes non-iodized salt;
- (b) if so, the details of the study with the reaction of the Government thereon; and
- (c) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard including ban on the sale of non-iodized salt in the country especially in rural areas?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Iodized Salt Coverage Study 2010 conducted by Salt Commissioner, GOI along with some International Organisations has revealed that 47.2% rural households were consuming adequately iodated salt (>15 ppm), 42.2% households were consuming inadequately iodated salt (<15 ppm) and 10.5% households were consuming salt with no iodine.

The Iodized Salt Coverage Study 2010 was conducted in eight states i.e. Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand while the Coverage Evaluation Study (CES) conducted by M/o Health & Family Welfare, Government Of India and UNICEF covering 30 states of the country has revealed that 66.1% of rural households were consuming adequately iodated salt (>15 ppm), 22.6% rural households

were consuming inadequately iodated salt (<15 ppm) and 10.5% rural households were consuming salt with no iodine.

(c): In order to prevent & control Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) Government of India is implementing National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP) in the country for entire population. Financial assistance is provided to all States/UT's for establishment of IDD Cell and IDD Monitoring Laboratory, conducting district IDD surveys, health education and publicity to create awareness amongst people to use only iodated salt. In addition, funds are provided to Salt Commissioner's Office for quality control of iodated salt at production level.

Regulation 2.9.30 (1)(2)(3) of Food Safety and Standards (Food Product Standards and Food Additives), Regulation, 2011 prescribes the standard for edible common salt including iodized salt, iron fortified common salt and iron fortified iodized salt (double fortified salt).

Regulation 2.3.12 of Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales), Regulation, 2011 restricts the sale of common salt for direct human consumption unless the same is iodized