

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:378

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015

Feeding of Poultry

Manjhi Shri Hari

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware that poultry farmers in various States are injecting/ feeding their poultry with antibiotic and other medicines to increase their weight;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the consumers of these poultry products have become immune to anti-biotic medicines with fatal consequences;
- (d) if so, whether the Government is considering to enact a strict law to check the misuse of anti-biotic medicines; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b) No information has been received from any State Government regarding injecting/feeding of poultry with antibiotic and other medicines by poultry farmers to increase their weight. However, as per report released on 30.07.2014 by Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), a non-government organization 70 chicken samples collected from Delhi and National Capital Region (NCR) were tested. On testing on three tissues viz. muscle, liver and kidney from these samples presence of six antibiotics commonly used in poultry such as Oxytetracycline, chlortetracycline, doxycyclines, enrofloxacin, ciprofloxacin and neomycin were reported.

(c) As per information received from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, no studies has been conducted to assess that the consumers of poultry products have become immune to anti-biotic medicines with fatal consequences.

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(d) & (e) The Central Drugs Standards and Control Organization (CDSCO) has informed that in order to have focused regulation on manufacture and sale of antibiotics and habit forming drugs, the Drugs & Cosmetics Rule, 1945 were amended vide Gazette Notification No GSR 588 (E) dated 30.08.2013 w.e.f. 01.03.2014 incorporating a new Schedule H1 containing 46 drugs which include 24 third and fourth generation antibiotics, 11 Anti Tuberculosis drugs and 11 habit forming drugs.

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries had issued advisories on 03.06.2014 and 02.12.2014 to all States and UTs for judicious use of antibiotics in treatment of food producing animals and also stopping the use of antibiotics in animal feed. Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has also requested all State/UTs Drugs Controllers on 06/06/2014 to take up the matter with the Animal Husbandry Departments in their States/UTs for compliance of the above circular issued by Ministry of Agriculture. Further DCGI issued an advisory to all States/UT's on 12/09/2014 that use of antibiotics and hormones in animal feed should also be stopped.

Further, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has also provided an indicative list of antibiotics which should not be used in animal feed and feed pre-mixes to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and to ban these antibiotics for non-therapeutic use so as to make their use in feed and feed premixes prohibitory.

The Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) has initiated action to fix Maximum Residue Limits/Tolerance Limits of various Insecticides and veterinary drugs & antibiotics including pharmacologically active substances.