

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3235
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2014
ANTIBIOTICS IN HONEY
Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of certain studies regarding manufacturing and marketing of honey adulterated with antibiotics and other banned substance in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the facts in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has received complaints regarding sale of adulterated honey in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for ensuring availability of better quality of honey and its products in the market?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

- (a) & (b): The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), New Delhi, an NGO, in a laboratory study on antibiotics in honey in September, 2010, had reported that out of 12 samples of honey analysed by them 11 samples contained antibiotics, out of which 2 samples were of imported honey.
- (c) & (d): As per information available from the State/UT Governments, no such complaints have been received by the concerned State/UT Governments.
- (e): The Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 seeks to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food and lay down science based standards including for honey and its products.