

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1076

ANSWERED ON:28.11.2014

TOXIC CHEMICAL IN FEEDING BOTTLES

Khuba Shri Bhagwanth;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Yadav Shri Dharmendra;Yeddyurappa Shri B. S.

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of a study conducted by an environmental NGO which has found high levels of bisphenol A in baby feeding bottles, exposure to which causes disruption of normal hormone levels, behavioural problems, increased risk of cancer and many other health issues;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has received any complaint in this regard and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to impose a ban on use of bisphenol A in baby feeding bottles or phase them out?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a) & (b): Yes, ICMR has informed that they are aware of the study conducted by Toxic Links in which 14 samples of feeding bottles were analyzed. Results shows presence of Bisphenol A (BPA) in all the samples. It has been communicated by ICMR that Bisphenol A (BPA) is an industrial chemical used to make a hard, clear plastic known as polycarbonate which has been used since 1960s in many consumer products including reusable water bottles. In 2008 US FDA conducted a toxicology review on BPA which was till then judged to be safe. However, recent studies have found high urinary BPA levels to be associated with meningioma, obesity measures (BMI & waist circumference), peripheral artery diseases, hypertension, diabetes and reported heart disease but no link with use of feeding bottles has been established.

(c) & (d): Government has not received any complaint in this regard.