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Title: Need to take steps to remove ban on non-iodized salt.

KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE (UDUPI CHIKMAGALUR): Madam, today, I am raising an important issue on salt. It is very sad that every Indian is deprived today of the simplest basic need, that is salt. It is an ingredient which we need every day in our daily food.

For centuries, the general population has used the rock and crystal sea salt for their healthy food. Today, we are getting only Iodized salt. The salt which is available for consumption is Iodized salt. The logic used by the promoters of Iodine in our diet is that some areas in India fall under the Goitre Belt.

Madam, Goitre is a problem which may be caused in some people due to deficiency of thyroid hormones. Majority of the population do not have hypo-thyroidism. Providing compulsorily Iodine in the chemical form in our daily food creates imbalance in our human body. The endocrine system of the entire population is being mercilessly destroyed by making every individual to consume Iodine. It is not understood why Iodine is given for every individual when it is not required. It should be added in the diet of only those persons who are sick and who need iodine.

Each day, our body has to work extra to deal with this chemical to flush it out of the body. The entire body and the kidneys are put to task. The side effect of excess iodine on the psychological and physical health of the general population is being deliberately ignored.

Why the consumer is not being given the choice to use non-iodized salt? Through you Madam, I am urging the Union Government to remove ban on non-iodized salt and give the Iodized salt who are in need of it.

This is an important issue for the Indian population.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Tathagata Satpathy, Shri S.S. Ahluwalia and Shrimati Kirron Kher are permitted to associate with the matter raised by Kumari Shoba Karandlaje.