

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 09.11.2010
ANSWERED ON
INADEQUACY IN WATER PURIFIERS IN ELIMINATING VIRUSES .

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SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of a recent study that has found most domestic water purifiers inadequate in completely eliminating water borne viruses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken, if any, by Government in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN)

(a) to (d) National Institute of Virology, Pune (under ICMR), conducted a study to evaluate the performance of eight commonly used domestic water purification units in terms of removal of contaminating Hepatitis E virus. The standards laid down by the US Environmental Protection Agency were used in the study. Results indicate that 2/8 water filtration units tested, were effective in completely removing the virus whereas the other 6 removed the virus only partially. The study has been Published in the Journal of Tropical Medicine and International Health August, 2009.