

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3373
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6.12.2016

PLASTIC PACKAGING FOR FOOD

3373. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has set standards for safe plastic packaging for food, beverages and medicines and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to redress the issue of leaching of heavy metals in popular beverages and medicines packaged in Polyethylene terephthalate bottles as highlighted in recent Government testing reports; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) : Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has published twenty two (22) Indian Standards for plastic packaging of food items, beverages, pharmaceuticals etc. These Indian Standards on plastic packaging material are on packaging of ophthalmic preparations, vanaspati, edible oil, packaged drinking water etc. Besides, BIS has also published Indian Standards on High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)/ Polypropylene (PP) woven sacks for packing foodgrains, sugar, fruits and vegetables etc.
- (b)&(c) : BIS has published Indian Standard IS 12229:1987 which, interalia, prescribes the maximum limit of heavy metals in packaging material in contact with foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals and drinking water.
