

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1302**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2024

**USE OF ANTIBIOTICS IN POULTRY FARMS**

1302 DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several poultry farmers in the country are resorting to the preventive use of antibiotics which are harmful for humans for augmenting the growth of poultry and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the extant rules and guidelines governing the use of antibiotics in poultry farms in the country; and
- (c) whether the Government has already banned such antibiotics and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER FOR FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING  
(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH)

(a) The antibiotics are not used as growth promoters. However, it has been reported that many poultry farmers are using antimicrobials as non-therapeutic feed additives including growth promoters. These antimicrobials are also inclusive of antibiotics which are also used for animal and human.

(b) As per the Drugs and Cosmetic Act, 1940, the antibiotics are scheduled H Drugs for which import, manufacture and sale of drugs requires license. The drugs are to be sold by the retailers through prescription only. For use of antimicrobials in veterinary the same needs to be prescribed by the registered Veterinary Practitioners. In order to regulate the sale of antibiotics the Drugs and Cosmetic Rules were amended by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare vide Gazette notification G.S.R. 28(E) dated 17.01.2012, to make a provisions that the container of a medicine for treatment of food producing animals shall be labeled with the withdrawal period of the drug for the species on which it is intended to be used.

Further, the Department of Animal Husbandry has issued advisories to all States/UTs for judicious use of antibiotics in livestock sector. CDSCO has also issued various Notices/Advisories/Letters to the State Drugs Regulations, and other stake holders for strict compliance of the requirements of Drugs and Cosmetic Act and Rules made thereunder and raising awareness in the public regarding adverse effects of misuse of antibiotics. Further, various awareness programmes amongst the poultry farmers through Poultry Associations are also being held.

(c) India has banned Colistin and its formulations on 19.07.2019 for manufacture, sale and distribution for food producing animals, poultry, aqua farming and animal feed supplements. As per the Food Safety and Standards Regulations during processing of meat and meat products, poultry and eggs, sea foods including shrimps, prawns or any variety of fish and fishery products the use of antimicrobials like Nitrofurazone, Chloramphenicol, Furaltadone etc. are banned.

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