

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1012  
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2004  
BAN ON INSTRUMENTS FOR MEASURING BLOOD PRESSURE  
Chaudhary Shri Pankaj

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that many countries have banned the general instruments for measuring blood pressure as these contain mercury;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to ban such instruments;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(d): The mercury sphygmomanometer used traditionally for measuring blood pressure has been replaced in some countries due to environmental concerns. However, in replacement of mercury sphygmomanometer, there are also concern in many countries about the availability, affordability and accuracy of alternative devices.