

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1107
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2004
FEMALE CONDOMS
Jagannath Dr. M.

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

- (a) whether the Government has cleared the proposal for marketing of female condoms across the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any study to assess its impact on the health of the women;
- (c) whether these female condoms would be supplied free of cost;
- (d) whether infrastructure exists in the country for the manufacture of the same; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The marketing of female condoms across the country can be considered only after completing the efficacy and acceptability studies. There are two types of female condoms that are being considered for manufacturing in India:

(1) Poliurethene Female Condom (Reality) manufactured by Female Health Company, USA in collaboration with Hindustan Latex Limited, Thiruvananthapuram.

(2) Latex Female Condom (Dr. Reddy) manufactured by Meditech Products Limited, Chennai.

The studies are being conducted at National level for the field test user response and acceptance of the product by the National Agencies/NGOs. The use of female condoms and its assessment impact on the health of the women are in testing stage in limited centers like Chennai, Mumbai and Hyderabad.

(c) No such scheme has been started.

(d) & (e) The infrastructure for the manufacture of Reality Female Condoms is being developed at Hindustan Latex Limited, Thiruvananthapuram in collaboration with Family Health Company that manufacture the condoms at London factory. The Latex Female Condoms are manufactured at Chennai by Meditech Products Limited and are supplied to European countries.