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Title: Need to ban use of antibiotics in poultry farms.

SHRI SULTAN AHMED (ULUBERIA): As reported in newspaper the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) has found antibiotics in 40% of the 70 chicken samples it tested from Delhi and the NCR. Seventeen per cent of the samples tested had more than one drug, found the CSE study. Animals are fed antibiotics to add to high growth and bulk, which causes resistance in bacteria in animals, which then gets transferred to humans through food. These antibiotics are six commonly used antibiotics, including tetracycline and ciprofloxacin. The spread of drug resistance from animals to humans is like nuclear chain reaction that is uncontrollable. Additionally, eating small doses of antibiotics in food also leads to the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in humans.

Use of antibiotics in the meat and poultry in India is totally unregulated as the government has adopted the model self-regulation for poultry farm. Hence, I urge that Government should formulate comprehensive regulation, including banning of antibiotic-use as growth promoters in the poultry and meat industry. Not doing this will put lives of people at risk.