

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2085
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23RD SEPTEMBER, 2020**

RELAXATION OF REGULATION ON HONEY

2085. SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN:

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

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the Apiculturists in Kerala are facing great distress due to the Gazette notification No.293 dated 03/08/2018 issued by FSSAI stating that the water content in honey shall be maximum 20 percent and anything above 20 percent is considered as adulteration;

(b) whether Government has noticed that due to high humidity level in Kerala, the water content of the honey produced here is between 20 and 25 percent which has been allowed by BIS and KVIC;

(c) whether the Government is considering to relax the prescribed conditions in the Gazette notification to help the Apiculturists of Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has received representation from Federation of Indigenous Apiculturist, Kerala in this regard.

(b) to (d): The moisture content in the Food Safety and Standards of honey has been notified based on the International standards prescribed by Codex & European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and National standards by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), which is 20% by mass max. This issue was deliberated in the 15th Meeting of Scientific Panel on Sweets, Confectionery, Sugar, Sweetener and Honey wherein the Panel has requested the Federation of Indigenous Apiculturist, Thiruvananthapuram to submit the relevant data and analysis report in support of their representation.