



CHAIRMAN

30<sup>th</sup> August, 2004

Mr J.V.R. Prasada Rao  
Secretary  
Department of Health  
Nirman Bhavan  
New Delhi - 110 001

~~JS(RT)~~ / what is the present position with regard to composite standards Has the CCFS set up an expert committee new 30/8

Dear Mr. Prasada Rao

We would like to thank you once again for the clear and precise stand taken by the Ministry on the issue of pesticide residues standard in soft drinks both with the press and in response to parliamentary questions

Pursuant to the JPC the procedure being followed by the CCFS is scientific and has the full support of the industry. The CCFS had recommended that the package water standards be applied for the water being used in the manufacture of soft drinks. This has since been implemented and the concerns if any of the basic safety of the product taken care of.

The Pesticide Residue Sub-Committee of the CCFS also decided to have nationwide monitoring data on Pesticide residues in carbonated waters for the purpose of fixation of MRLs in the final product. This is a scientific and correct method and also in line with the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee.

In our view the nationwide monitoring data would also provide a valuable clue whether or not the pesticide problem in carbonated waters is significant at all.

We are however extremely concerned at the way the FAD 14 of the BIS is rushing to set standards for the finished products without any scientific analysis. It is proposing to set packaged water standards for the finished products in a totally unscientific manner and against any international norms. This when another arm of the government is examining the whole issue scientifically we strongly feel that the BIS should wait until the CCFS and its Pesticide Residue Sub-Committee gives its final recommendations on the issue

The entire soft drink and the food processing industry has strongly represented to the BIS against fixing of such standards -even if they be only a requirement for ISI certification, and not mandatory.

Kindly pu. file with self contained note for Secy(H) by 2/9. PCS 31/8

JS(D) 31/8

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DADG(PFA)



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Continuation

We would also request you, sir, as the entire subject of food safety falls under the purview of your ministry, to use your good offices to ensure that the BIS does not set standards which apart from not helping safety and hygiene in any manner are non implementable and totally uncalled for

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,

Rajeev Bakshi