

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:227
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2002
QUALITY OF AYURVEDIC MEDICINES
BRIJLAL KHABRI;YOGI ADITYANATH

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

- (a) the reasons for not making provisions for displaying the expiry date on Ayurvedic medicines;
- (b) whether it has resulted in deterioration in the quality of these medicines;
- (c) whether any arrangements for obtaining patents of Ayurvedic medicines is being made; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA)

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 227 FOR 4.12.2002

(a)to(d): There is no provision in the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules for indicating expiry date of Ayurvedic products on the labels. However, expiry date of certain groups of products has been indicated in the Ayurvedic Formulary of India.

Medicines kept beyond these prescribed periods are likely to deteriorate.

Patents are obtained by the inventors who develop the product under Patent Laws. However, Department of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy is establishing a Traditional Knowledge Digital Library of about 35,000 Ayurvedic formulations which will help in preventing patent claims on such formulations by others.