

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2207
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2003
BAN ON DRUGS
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

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

- (a) whether in October, 2002 the Government had decided to ban certain drugs which were declared unsafe;
- (b) if so, whether the Government instead of banning the same extended the deadline for their circulation upto August 1, 2003; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (c) The Drugs formulations of Terfenadine and Astemizole for human use were earlier prohibited for manufacture, sale and distribution with effect from 1st August, 2003 through a Gazette Notification GSR 732(E) dated 29.10.2002. The matter has been further reviewed and the manufacture of these drugs formulation is now being prohibited with immediate effect and their sale and distribution with effect from 1st April, 2003.