

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1037
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2004
CIRCULATION OF BANNED DRUGS
Surendran Shri Chengara

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that many drugs which are in circulation in Indian markets have been banned in U.S. and European countries;
- (b) if so, the details of such drugs; and
- (c) the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) to (c): There is no uniform globally accepted system of banning of drugs. Drugs withdrawn in one country are not necessarily withdrawn in other countries. The reports of prohibition of any specific drug in a country and the reasons thereof are examined by the regulatory authorities of other countries and action for banning of the drug is taken after examining its dose and usage permitted in the country, over all benefit risk ratio and its requirements in the country. For example Drugs like Cisapride and Phenyl propanolamine are prohibited in U.S.A. but are permitted to be marketed in many European countries.

The reports of prohibition of a particular drug in a country along with the reasons thereof are examined in consultation with medical experts and expert committees appointed for the purpose of thorough scientific examination of available data. The decision regarding banning of a drug is normally based on risk assessment process which is influenced by a number of factors such as the disease pattern in a country, the varying reaction of certain ethnic groups in a given population to the drug and the availability of so far substitutes as well as the cost factor involved in the treatment of a particular disease.