

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4828
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2010
FAKE DRUGS FROM CHINA
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether fake drugs from China were offloaded as Indian drugs in African countries such as Ghana, South Africa and Ivory Coast where India had a substantial market share;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has lodged protests with Chinese Government in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response from the Chinese Government in this regard; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to protect and promote the pharmaceutical sector?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) & (b): During June, 2009, Government of India's attention was drawn to the press release issued by NAFDAC, Nigerian Government Drug Regulatory Authority, about detention and seizure of a large consignment of fake anti-malarial generic pharmaceuticals labelled "Made in India" but produced in China. No other similar cases on fake drugs from China being offloaded/seized in the countries of Ghana, South Africa or Ivory Coast have been reported.

(c) & (d): Taking serious note of the contents of NAFDAC's Press Release, a strong protest was lodged with concerned Chinese authorities with a request to take stringent action against such unscrupulous elements. Consequent to India's strong protest, the Chinese Government conducted an investigation and found a nexus between Chinese drug manufacturers and importers in Nigeria. The principal suspects have been caught and their factories sealed. The Chinese Government is taking action against the accused as per their law.

(e): Indian Missions abroad have been sensitized to be vigilant against such incidences. A mission for promotion of Indian generic drugs has been launched in Africa to sensitize the concerned health authorities that generic drugs from India are quality drugs at par with their patented alternatives and available at very reasonable cost. A Pharma Brand India campaign has been launched in Africa by Pharmexcil with the support of Department of Commerce.