

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:872

ANSWERED ON:29.07.2010

REGULATORY AUTHORITY FOR PHARMACEUTICAL SECTOR

Rajendran Shri C.

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a regulatory authority for the pharmaceutical sector to carry out various activities and also to control the malpractices that are taking place in this sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the expired drugs are being pumped into the market causing a great harm to the lives of the common man;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken /proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) & (b): The Task Force set up by Government to explore options other than Price Control for achieving the objective of making available life saving drugs at reasonable level recommended that in the long run both the functions of drug regulation & price control should be performed by the same agency and there should be an integrated regulatory system. Suitable recommendations on these issues have been included in the Draft National Pharmaceuticals Policy, 2006.

(c) to (e): Directorate General of Health Services[Office of Drugs Controller General (India)] has reported that recently a racket of sale of expired drugs was unearthed in Tamil Nadu. Fifteen shops were raided. One dealer was indulging in alteration of batch number, manufacturing date, expiry date of the date expired products and supplied them for resale. Investigations were conducted alongwith the police and police have arrested 12 people, while 5 persons surrendered in various Courts in Tamil Nadu. The case has been transferred to the Crime Branch-Criminal Investigation Department (CBCID) for further investigations. Out of these 17 persons police have booked 11 persons under TN prevention of Dangerous Activity Act-Drugs Offenders Act also.