

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:917

ANSWERED ON:25.11.2011

SPURIOUS AND SUB-STANDARD DRUGS

Bhoi Shri Sanjay;Deshmukh Shri K. D.;Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad ;Mahato Shri Narahari;Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Ponnam Shri Prabhakar;Premajibhai Dr. Solanki Kiritbhai;Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Roy Shri Nripendra Nath;Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

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

- (a) whether as per the Government estimates, around 5 per cent of drugs in circulation are spurious and sub-standard in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of raids conducted, samples tested and those declared spurious and sub-standard alongwith the offenders prosecuted during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has proposed certain guidelines and set up a committee to finalise them in order to keep a check on the circulation of spurious and sub-standard drugs; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

a): No.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): A Statement containing the details of raids conducted, samples tested and those declared spurious and sub-standard alongwith the offenders prosecuted during each of the last three years is annexed.

(d) & (e): Enhanced penal provisions were inserted in the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 through the Drugs & Cosmetics (Amendment) Act, 2008. Detailed guidelines were issued to the State Governments with the approval of the Drugs Consultative Committee for effective enforcement of these amended provisions of the Act. Further, on the basis of an Order of the Hon'ble High Court of Allahabad in the Criminal (Misc) Writ Petition No. 16212/2008-Brahmaji Vs. State of U.P. and Others, Government has constituted a Task Force to examine the feasibility of networking and tracking the drugs distribution system in the country from the manufacturer to the retailer to secure the entire supply chain and detect spurious drugs available in the market. Different options through the use of information technology have been considered by the Task Force, including providing bar code on the label of the drugs, for identifying and tracking their movement from the manufacturer to the consumer. The matter is sub-judice.