

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2756
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2011
SALE OF MEDICINE STRIP
Ram Shri Purnmasi

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of a number of complaints regarding chemists insisting consumers to buy an entire strip of tablets and refusing to cut the strip or sell less;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the mechanism put in place by the Government to monitor such incidents and examine complaints;
- (d) whether such practice is in violation of the consumer's right and a restrictive trade practice that puts an unnecessary financial burden on the consumers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the corrective measures taken/proposed by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): There are no rules prescribed under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 for sale of entire strip of medicine or in parts. Purchase of entire strip provides the consumers crucial information regarding batch number and expiry date of the medicines. The Regulatory control over the manufacture and sale of drugs is exercised by the State Licensing Authorities appointed by the State Governments under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act