

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5813

ANSWERED ON:11.05.2012

ILLEGAL DRUGS THROUGH INTERNET PHARMACIES

Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun;Scindia Smt. Yashodhara Raje

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of marketing of illegal and banned drugs through Internet pharmacies and courier services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken/ proposed any steps to check the above practice;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) to (e): Under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945, drugs are permitted to be sold by the licencees holding a valid licence and in compliance with the requirements as prescribed for different categories of drugs. Illegal and banned drugs are not permitted to be sold under the said rules. In cases of marketing of drugs through internet, the physical delivery of these drugs to the actual purchasers cannot take place as they have to cross the ports/sea-ports which are manned by the personnel of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) and customs department, who permit the shipment of only those drugs which are permissible under the said Rules.