

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:399

ANSWERED ON:07.09.2012

SALE OF ABORTION PILLS KIT AND BANNED DRUGS

Meghe Shri Datta Raghobaji;Yadav Shri Om Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of illegal/unchecked marketing and sale of abortion pills/kit and banned medicines in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken/proposed by the Government to keep a check on the marketing/sale of such pills/kit and banned drugs;
- (c) the mechanism put in place by the Government to review the drugs which are permitted to be sold in the country;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to review the marketing of certain drugs including cancer medicine Gleevec for potential side-effects; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.399 FOR 7TH SEPTEMBER, 2012

(a)&(b): The manufacture and sale of banned drugs is prohibited under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, and is a punishable offence. However, no case of sale of banned drug has been reported in the recent past by the State Licensing Authorities. So far as the abortion pills are concerned, the same are approved drugs covered under Schedule H of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 and are required to be sold on the prescription of Registered Medical Practitioner only. The Government of Maharashtra has conducted raids in respect of illegal / unchecked sale of abortion pills / kits in the State and First Information Reports (FIRs) have been filed in 30 cases in different police stations.

(c)to(e) In case of any serious adverse event reported about any drug, the use of the drug is assessed in consultation with the expert committees / Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) set up for the purpose, based on available technical information, benefit-risk ratio, local needs and availability of safer alternatives etc. Based on the recommendations of the expert committees / DTAB, the Central Government prohibits manufacture and sale of drugs in the country through a Gazette Notification. As on date, 90 drugs / categories of drugs have been prohibited for marketing in the country. No report of any adverse drug reaction has been received by the Government about the drug Gleevec.