

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3279

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2012

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE OF VITAMINS AND NUTRACEUTICALS MARKET

Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

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

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to tighten the regulatory framework of Rs. 4,500 crore vitamins and nutraceuticals market in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken so far in that regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION  
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) & (b): Some drugs companies have shifted the manufacturing of drugs to food and nutrition supplements under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. This has enabled them to remain out of price control. Accordingly, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was informed about such practices and requested to take corrective action to prevent vitamins and mineral, which are used for treatment of various ailments, from getting out of price control.

The Ministry Health and Family Welfare has informed that different drug / healthcare products manufacturers have been manufacturing food, dietary and nutritional supplements for a long time in this country based on the license issued to them under the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act, 1954. These products were earlier being manufactured under license from different licensing authorities under the PFA Act and now under the Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006. The issue, as to whether these food, dietary and nutritional supplements are food or drug has been pending before the Patna High Court.