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Title: Need to check the spread of spurious drugs in the Country.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR) : It is a matter of grave concern that nearly 30 percent of all medicines sold in the country are spurious. The trade in such drugs is worth a staggering Rs 4000 crore. In International fake drug market 38 percent is sourced from India. Delhi has earned a dubious distinction in this and major hub of this trade is a popular market in the middle of New Delhi. Unfortunately, the authorities are turning a blind eye to this racket. Our public health system is in shambles. As a result, these spurious drugs are adding further problem not only to patients but also causing further diseases. India, which has the world's highest number of people affected by T.B. and Cancer, do not get the proper attention on the part of the Government which is standing helpless due to the onslaught of spurious drugs. What the inspectors are doing and how many inspectors are needed, there is no proper study. The Indian pharma industry is worth Rs 20,000 crore and growing. India's reputation as a haven for spurious drugs and as an exporter of substandard medicines will affect this growth adversely. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to weed out the fake drug-manufacturing units. Also, increase the number of drug testing units and use electronic media in order to alert the people besides awarding severe punishment to the culprits.