

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A Statement is attached. [*Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 797 Part (a) and (b)*]

Flourishing of Spurious Drug Trade

809. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the spurious drug trade is flourishing throughout the country, as brought out in a recent raid on several establishments in the biggest wholesale market of medicines of North India at Delhi where out of 53 drug samples, including those of life saving medicines, picked up randomly, only four were found to be genuine;

(b) if so, broad estimate of this illegal trade and the details of the follow-up action taken so far, including prosecutions launched, in the recent cases; and

(c) the details of existing machinery to check this dangerous spurious drug trade and fresh measures initiated to monitor this nefarious trend?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Government is aware of the problem of the manufacture and sale of spurious drugs. This is a clandestine activity indulged in by some unscrupulous and anti-social persons. So far as Delhi State is concerned, Delhi Police in association with the Drugs Control department of Government of NCT Delhi seized on 4th July, 2001 large stocks of allegedly spurious drugs from unlicensed persons godowns located in and around Bhagirath Place, Delhi.

As per the information available, they recovered stock seized drugs worth Rs. 3,15,90,281 and machinery of approximate value of Rs. 75,00,000. In all 6 accused have been arrested in this case. The interrogation of the accused persons connected in this case led to the detection of manufacturing unit at Murthal, Haryana which was functioning without any Valid licence.

Ten samples of drugs were collected by the Drugs Inspectors out of which three have been reported spurious. Besides, Delhi Police seized unclaimed drugs from unlicensed godowns, out of which 53 drugs were sent to the original manufacturers for verifying their genuineness and only 4 drugs were reported as

genuine by them. The Delhi Police has launched prosecution against the accused persons involved in spurious drug racket.

(c) As per the information available from the State Licensing Authorities there are 842 drug Inspectors as per the existing strength against the recommended norms of about 2969.

Since manufacture and sale of spurious medicines is a clandestine activity indulged in by anti-social persons, steps are taken from time to time by the enforcement authorities of the States to detect and unearth spurious take drugs in the interstate commerce.

- I. The Drugs Controller General (India) has advised the state drug controllers to take the following measures for curbing the incidence of spurious drugs:—
 - (a) Constitution reactivation of State Drug Advisory Committees in which various trade and industry associations as well as consumer associations should find representation.
 - (b) Establishment of sparate intelligence-cum-legal machinery with police assistance Training should be provided to selected officials of Drug Control Administration in the modalities of intelligence work, prosecution etc. in respect of spurious counterfeit drugs.
 - (c) To ensure speedy analysis of drug samples by establishing own state level drug testing facilities.
 - (d) State Drugs Control Authorities should be cautions while approving licences for drug products to ensure that 'look-alike' products are not encouraged.
 - (e) To develop efficient communication facilities and recall procedures.
 - (f) Surveillance of suspected dealers.
 - (g) Engaging experienced counsel for fighting spurious drug cases.
 - (h) Cooperation of Pharmaceutical Industry by regular interaction with them.
 - (i) Collection of Survey samples under National Survey Quality Evaluation of Drug (NSQED) programme.

- II. Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare had specifically taken up the issue of combating the menace of manufacture and sale of spurious, adulterated and counterfeit drugs in the meeting of Central Council of Health and Family Welfare held on 12th and 13th July, 2001 in New Delhi.

It was resolved that in order to address issues to the increasing reports of the spurious counterfeit drugs, special attention requires to be given to monitor and unearth such illegal activities by constituting a separate intelligence cell in the respective drugs control organization and in seeking cooperation of the Pharma Industry, the trade.

- III. Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of DGHS on July 18, 2001 associating members from industry, trade, drug regulatory officials and public representative to go into all aspects of the menace of spurious drugs and suggest remedial measures.

Family Welfare Centres in H.P.

†810. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Family Welfare Centres functioning specially in rural areas in Himachal Pradesh as on date, location-wise;
- (b) whether Government propose to open some more Family Welfare Centres specially in backward, hilly and rural areas in Himachal Pradesh;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the amount allocated to Himachal Pradesh by Government for the maintenance of Family Welfare Centres during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (e) whether this amount is sufficient for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]:

(a) As per current information available, there are 77 Rural Family Welfare Centres (RFWCs), 2069 sub-centres, 302 Primary Health Centres and 65 Community Health Centres functioning in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.