

[16 July, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to put a ban on the increase use of tobacco-made gutkha, to restrict its sale or to stop its production; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (b) The use of tobacco and gutkha is one of the main reasons of mouth cancer and are mainly tobacco induced.

(c) and (d) Being aware of the serious ill-effects of tobacco use, the Government enacted a comprehensive tobacco control legislation titled "The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003" in 2003 for discouraging the use of cigarettes and other tobacco products like Gutkha etc. The Act, *inter alia*, prohibits sale of all tobacco products to minors and also within a radius of 100 yards of educational institutions.

#### **Spurious drugs in CGHS dispensaries**

†570. SHRI ABU ASIM AZIM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the cases of supply of spurious drugs in CGHS run dispensaries have come to light;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government for prevention thereof;

(c) whether Government have made a thorough enquiry into these complaints;

(d) if so, the number of such cases which have come to light; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) whether any action has been taken against certain firms or persons in the spurious drugs supply case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) CGHS gets pre-tested drugs from its suppliers. The CGHS Medical Store Depot (MSD) randomly picks up drug samples or when complaints are received and sends them for testing. If the test report is not satisfactory, the drug is declared substandard and the CGHS MSD suspends the use of the substandard drug and informs the supplying agency and the Drugs Controller General (India) for taking appropriate action. During the current year, out of 66 samples tested, 5 have been declared substandard.

The Zonal Officers of CDSCO draw samples randomly from the CGHS dispensaries from time to time to validate the quality of drugs and forward them to the testing labs for the purpose of test/analysis.

As per the feedback given by the Zonal Officers of CDSCO for the period 2003-2004, 241 samples were taken for test/analysis out of which 100 samples were declared to be of standard quality, 7 samples were declared to be not of standard quality whereas only one sample, which does not pertain to the CGHS, was declared to be spurious by the Govt, analyst. On receipt of the report from the Govt, analyst, CDSCO, North Zone have initiated necessary mandatory action as per the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and rules thereunder. The results of analysis of the remaining 133 samples out of 241 samples have not been received from the different Central testing laboratories.

#### **Strike by CGHS authorised medical stores**

571. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that medical stores authorized to supply medicines (both indented and other medicine) to C.G.H.S. dispensaries were on strike recently;

(b) if so, the reasons for their strike and whether the normal supply of CGHS medicines has been restored;