

Earlier, guidelines for taking action on samples of drugs declared spurious or not of standard quality in the light of enhanced penalties under the Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Act, 2008 were forwarded to the State Drugs Controllers for uniform implementation.

The matter regarding amendment of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 for categorizing the Spurious, Adulterated and Not of Standard Quality drugs for the purpose of taking action and also to include the said guidelines as part of the Rules, has been deliberated in the 79th meeting of Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) held on 16th May, 2018 and the Board has agreed for the same.

Promoting use of small grains for health benefits

741. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to promote/encourage use of small grains for health benefits;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) to (c) Consumption of healthy and safe food is being promoted through "Safe & Nutritious Food" initiative of the Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). FSSAI has also recently launched "The Eat Right Movement" which aims to engage, excite and enable citizens to improve their health and wellbeing.

One of the key messages being delivered to citizens through these initiatives is to have a balanced diet which includes adequate amount of whole grains cereals, including small grains and pulses.

In this regard, all the stakeholders across the country are being made aware and educated through various communication platforms, participation in exhibitions/ events; and social media handles. The dedicated websites www.snfpportal.in; www.fssai.gov.in/EatRightMovement have also been developed.