

Spurious Drugs

1215. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 20 per cent of drugs are counterfeit and spurious in nature;
- (b) if so, whether Government is going to take appropriate action against such unscrupulous activities in order to arrest manufacture and sale of such drugs;
- (c) if so, the details of the action already initiated by Government in this regard; and
- (d) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) No. There is no such data with the Ministry.

In order to ensure the quality of drugs in the country, both the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) and the State drug regulators pick up a large number of samples of drugs from all over the country and get them tested and analysed in the laboratories of the Central and State Governments. In a few cases, the samples tested and analysed do not meet the prescribed standards. The details of the drugs that do not meet the standards are immediately notified by the Central or State regulator concerned for necessary action.

(b) to (d) The Government is committed to ensuring that the quality, safety and efficacy of drugs are not compromised. With this in view, the Government has taken a series of measures including strengthening of legal provisions, workshops and training programmes for manufacturers and regulatory officials and measures such as risk based inspections.

Deaths from Japanese Encephalitis

†1216. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of deaths caused by Japanese Encephalitis (JE) in various States of the country during the last three years and the age group of the children, where this disease has been found to be prevalent;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.