

(b) and (c) A team has been constituted to make *incognito* visit to the obstetrics/Gynae Emergency and labour rooms of Safdarjung Hospital and Sucheta Kriplani Hospital to ascertain the facts and submit a report. The Medical Superintendent and the concerned Head of the Department of Obstetrics/Gynae Department have been advised to sensitize the resident doctors, staff nurses and *ayahs* on their behavioural pattern. They have also been advised to rotate the staff working in stressful areas at regular interval.

Legislation to control sale of spurious drugs

2549. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU:

SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

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

(a) whether Government propose to bring a new legislation to control unabated sale of spurious drugs all over the country;

(b) the kind of punishment proposed to be awarded to merchants in this new legislation; and

(c) by when it is likely to be introduced in the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) and (b) Under the provisions of Drugs & Cosmetics Act and Rules thereunder, Section 27 of the said Act prescribes penalty for manufacture, sale etc. of drugs. Any drug deemed to be adulterated under Section 17A or spurious under Section 17B or which when used by any person or in the diagnosis treatment, mitigation or prevention of any disease or disorder is likely to cause his death or is likely to cause such harm on his body as would amount to grievous hurt within the meaning of Section 320 of IPC solely on account of such drug being adulterated as spurious or not of standard quality, as the case may be, shall be punishable with the imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than 5 years but which may extend to a term of life and with fine which shall not be less than Rs. 10,000. Since adequate punitive penal provisions are laid in the said Act to tackle the problem of manufacture and sale of spurious drugs, Government does not propose to bring any new legislation in this regard.

(c) In view of above, question does not arise.