

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 12.11.2010
ANSWERED ON

MALPRACTICES IN PRODUCTION OF MEDICINES BY PHARMA COMPANIES .

497

Dr. Anil Kumar Sahani

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether some pharmaceutical companies have allegedly shifted the production of medicines that are under price control, to food and nutrition-supplements, manufactured under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 in order to circumvent the control mechanism;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to curb such alleged malpractices of drug companies; and
- (c) the details of companies indulging in such malpractices and action taken against each of them in the matter?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SHRI SRI KANT KUMAR JENA)

(a) to (c): It has come to the notice of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) that some companies have shifted manufacturing of their product from drugs to food and nutrition supplements under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and this has enabled them to remain out of price control. Examples observed in this regard are Evion 400mg of MIs Merck, Revital of MIs Ranbaxy, Recharge Plus of MIs Trikio, Soft Z gold of MIs Indochem etc. NPPA has taken up the matter with Ministry of Health and Family welfare for appropriate action as the matter relating to composition of drugs under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act as well as adulteration of drugs is under the Drug Controller General of India under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.