

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2366
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2016**

SPURIOUS DRUGS AND EXPIRED MEDICINES IN THE MARKET

2366. DR. V. MAITREYAN:

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

- (a) the guidelines and norms chalked out by Government to check, monitor and curb the distribution and sale of spurious drugs and expired medicines in the country;
- (b) the total quantity and value of spurious drugs and expired medicines found detected from the pharmaceutical market across the country in the last two years, year-wise;
- (c) whether the pharmaceutical sector is suffering due to too much counter sale of spurious and expired drugs and medicines by drug stores and medical shops; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to curb and punish such culprits and to initiate pharmacies and medical shops throughout the country?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)**

(a) & (b): Under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940, the regulatory control over the drugs imported into the country is exercised by the Central Government through the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), while the manufacture, sale and distribution of drugs is regulated by the State Licensing Authorities (SLAs) appointed by the State Governments. Both the CDSCO and the State drug regulators pick up a large number of samples of drugs from all over the country and have 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. As per information available with the CDSCO, the total number of samples tested and analysed and the number of samples found to be 'Not of Standard Quality' (NSQ)/Spurious during the last two years are as under:-

Year	No. of samples tested	No. samples declared as NSQ	No. of samples declared as spurious/adulterated
2014-15	77804	3823	83
2015-16	77483	3818	239

(c): No.

(d): The State Licensing Authorities direct such manufacturers whose products do not meet the prescribed standard to recall their products and take action against them as per provisions of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940.