GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYUSH

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 973
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09th DECEMBER 2025

Contamination of ayurvedic syrups

973 Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala:

Will the Minister of ***Ayush*** be pleased to state:
(a) the number of deaths or serious illnesses of children and adults linked to ayurvedic syrups or ayurvedic medicine during the last five years, including such syrups or medicines declared unsafe; and
(b) the steps taken to ensure quality testing and prevent contamination of Ayurvedic medicines in the future?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF MINISTRY OF AYUSH
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

(a) As per the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drugs Rules, 1945, enforcement of the legal provisions pertaining to quality control and issuance of drug license of Ayurveda, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs is vested with the State Drug Controllers/ State Licensing Authorities (SLAs) appointed by the concerned State/ Union Territory Government.

As per the information received from States/ UTs governments, details of number of deaths or serious illnesses of children and adults linked to Ayurvedic syrups or Ayurvedic medicine during the last five years, including such syrups or medicines declared unsafe are available at **Annexure.**

(b) The steps taken to ensure quality testing and prevent contamination of Ayurvedic medicines in the future are as follows: -

1. The Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drugs Rules, 1945 have exclusive regulatory provisions for Ayurveda, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa, Unani, and Homoeopathy drugs. Provisions related to Ayurveda, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa, Unani Drugs are contained in Chapter IVA and Schedule- I of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules 151 to 169, Schedules E(I), T & TA of the Drugs Rules, 1945. It is mandatory for the manufacturers to adhere to the prescribed requirements of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) as per Schedule T of Drugs Rules, 1945 and quality standards given in the Ayurvedic pharmacopoeia including proof of safety & effectiveness.

2. Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H), sub-ordinate organization under Ministry of Ayush, lays down the formulary specifications and pharmacopoeial standards for Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy (ASU&H) drugs which serves as official compendia for ascertaining the quality (identity, purity and strength) of the ASU&H drugs. As per the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and rules there under, the compliance to this quality standards are mandatory for manufacturing of ASU&H drugs.
3. PCIM&H also acts as the Appellate Drugs testing Laboratory for testing or analysis of ASU&H Drugs. In addition, it conducts capacity-building trainings at regular intervals for the standardization, quality control, and testing or analysis of ASU&H drugs for Drug Regulatory Authorities, Drug Analysts, and other relevant stakeholders, with a focus on laboratory techniques and methodologies essential for ensuring the quality of ASU&H drugs.
4. Rule 160 A to J of the Drugs Rules, 1945 provides the regulatory guidelines for approval of Drug Testing Laboratory for carrying out such tests of identity, purity, quality and strength of Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani drugs as may be required under the provisions of these rules, on behalf of licensee for manufacture of Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani drugs. As on date, 34 State Drug Testing Laboratories have been supported for strengthening their infrastructural and functional capacity. Further, 108 laboratories are approved or licensed under the provisions of Drugs Rules, 1945 for quality testing of Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani drugs and raw materials.
5. Ministry of Ayush has established an Ayush vertical in the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), which includes the posts of 1 Deputy Drugs Controller, 4 Assistant Drugs Controllers, and 4 Drug Inspectors. Drug Inspectors posted in Ayush vertical, inspect various manufacturing units in coordination with the licensing authorities/drug inspectors of the respective States/Union Territories on risk basis.

Annexure

State/ UT-wise details of number deaths or serious illnesses of children and adults linked to ayurvedic syrups or ayurvedic medicine during the Last five years, including such syrups or medicines declared unsafe are as follows –

S.No	Name of the State/UT	Details
1)	Odisha	In the State of Odisha, no deaths or serious illnesses of children and adults linked to ayurvedic syrups or ayurvedic medicine have been reported during the Last ten years, including such syrups or medicines declared unsafe.
2)	Mizoram	There are no such reported incidents of death or serious illness of children and adults linked to ayurvedic syrups or ayurvedic medicine in Mizoram during the last ten years.
3)	Goa	No such cases have been reported or detected in the State of Goa. Hence information pertaining to Goa is Nil.
4)	Tripura	Not such death or illness have ever been recorded in the State of Tripura till date.
5)	Madhya Pradesh	One case of death has been reported in Chhindwara district of Madhya Pradesh.
6)	Uttar Pradesh	No such cases have been reported.
7)	Gujarat	No death has been reported to Gujarat Ayush department during last ten years
8)	Uttarakhand	SLA has not received such types of complaints.
9)	Maharashtra	No such cases have been reported.
10)	Ladakh	No such cases reported.
11)	Lakshadweep	No such cases have been reported so far.
12)	Puducherry	Not reported in Puducherry.
13)	Kerala	No such cases reported.

14)	Delhi	Nil
15)	Chandigarh	Nil
16)	Haryana	Nil
17)	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil
18)	Meghalaya	Nil

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