

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3524  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2025**

**SUPPLY OF BANNED DRUGS**

**3524. SHRI VISHWESHWAR HEGDE KAGERI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that many banned medicines are being supplied across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to stop supply of such banned medicines?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY  
WELFARE  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (c): There are provisions under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, under which Central Government may regulate, restrict or prohibit manufacture, etc of any drug including Fixed Dose Combination (FDCs) drugs in public interest if the use of drugs is likely to involve any risk to human beings or animals or there is no therapeutic justification for the ingredients contained in FDCs.

Whenever, any such concerns on any drug including FDCs are reported, the matter is examined in consultation with expert committee/ Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) and appropriate action is taken for prohibition of such drugs.

Under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940, manufacture, sale and distribution of any prohibited/banned drug is a punishable offence and State Licensing Authorities are empowered to take action in this regard.

The Central Government has prohibited number of drugs including FDCs for manufacture, sale or distribution. Through notification issued on 07.09.2018, the Central Government prohibited 328 FDCs for manufacture, sale or distribution. The Government also restricted 06 FDCs for manufacture, sale or distribution with certain conditions. Subsequently, Central Government vide notifications S.O. 180(E) to S.O.259 (E), dated 11.01.2019, prohibited 80 FDCs for manufacture, sale or distribution. Further, Central Government vide notification S.O. 2394(E) to S.O. 2407(E) dated 02.06.2023 prohibited 14 FDCs for manufacture, sale or distribution. Recently, Central Government vide notification S.O. 3285(E) to S.O. 3440(E) dated 02.08.2024 prohibited 156 FDCs for manufacture, sale or distribution. List of banned FDCs is available on the website of CDSCO i.e. [www.cdsc.gov.in](http://www.cdsc.gov.in)

However, many a times after issuance of prohibition notification, stakeholders have challenged them in the Courts and Courts have granted interim protection for the drugs already in the distribution network.

Earlier, Government also has filed application in the Hon'ble Supreme Court against such stay order of the Court in respect of banned drugs.

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