

Regarding need to constitute a Committee to assess the use of cough syrup containing dextromethorphan hydrobromide by children and to frame guidelines for all the stakeholders-Laid

SHRI MUKESHKUMAR CHANDRAKAANT DALAL (SURAT): Death of few children in some states due to contaminated cough syrups or inappropriate doses shows grave concern. Children below six years do not require it at all as it provides fleeting comfort only. No scientific proof about its effectiveness upon children. Dextromethorphan Hydrobromide is a very dangerous ingredient for children used in cough syrups and its small overdose could be fatal to children. I suggest a Committee consisting of eminent senior pediatrics and senior Government officers be formed to suggest to Government as to whether cough syrups containing DH should be given or not, if yes then how and in what proportion and also to suggest strict rules for the manufacturer of cough syrups, for doctors who prescribe it and chemists who sell it on the counter.