

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2174  
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005  
MARKETING OF DRUGS  
Jagannath Dr. M.

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

- (a) whether some drugs are being marketed under established brand names even after they have changed formulation as reported in The Pioneer dated October 13, 2005;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) the preventive measures being taken by the Government to curb the flow of such medicines in the market; and
- (e) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the pharmaceutical companies for misguiding the consumers?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE ( SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (e) Permission for manufacture of a drug formulation along with the brand name is granted by the State Licensing Authorities appointed by the State Governments under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act. Manufacturers may sometime modify the composition of their formulation to improve it or to substitute an obsolete active ingredient while retaining the same brand name and indications.