

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2115
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2005
EMPTY CAPSULES
Oram Shri Jual

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

(a) whether the Government is aware about the distribution of empty capsules Refampicin to the Tuberculosis patients in the Government hospitals in Bangalore; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government against the suppliers, distributors and the hospital authorities?

Answer

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

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) It has been reported by the Government of Karnataka that the drug in question bearing batch no.570024 having manufacturing date as January 2004 and expiry date August 2006 was manufactured by M/s Karnataka Anti-biotics Pharmaceuticals Ltd., (a Government of India Enterprise). The said drug was procured by the State Government and supplied to various institutions in the areas not covered under the Revised National TB Control Programme at that time.

The State-Government has taken immediate steps to seize the stock of drug of the said batch to stop its use. The State Government has also instructed the concerned authorities not to procure anti-TB drugs locally.

Since 2004, the entire State has been covered under the Revised National TB Control Programme and the full requirement of anti-TB drugs is supplied by the Centre.