

**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA**  
**(RAJYA SABHA)**

**Press Release**

**COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS**

**Petition praying to put a check on manufacture of spurious drugs in  
our Country and other related issues.**

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The Committee on Petitions of the Rajya Sabha, under the **Chairmanship of Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari, MP, Rajya Sabha**, is considering a petition praying to put a check on manufacture of spurious drugs in our Country and other related issues. In the petition, the petitioner has pointed out that around 35% of world's spurious drugs are produced in India. Consumption of spurious drugs by the patients develop drugs resistance in them which forces them to look for costlier new generation drugs. The petition brings out other related implications of this menace also. The petition also highlights widespread irregularities in the method adopted by the companies to do clinical trial on the poor patients for the sake of tax benefit, but at the cost of the poor patients. The petitioner has urged the Committee to regulate clinical research, menace of spurious drugs and price control of generic medicines available in the market.

2. In this regard, the petitioner in his petition has prayed that:
- (i) The spread of use of spurious drugs in the Indian market may be controlled immediately through upgradation of appropriate laws. The recommendations of Dr. Mashelkar Committee, i.e., specifically mentioning spurious drugs an offence under IPC and making the offence non-bailable and cognizable and recommending a maximum of death penalty for this offence may be implemented;
  - (ii) A system needs be developed in which doctors prescribe medicines by their generic name, not by their brand name, as is the practice in many developed countries;
  - (iii) Spread of awareness among the consumers so that they are able to buy correct and proper medicines;

- (iv) To put a check on clinical trials more stringently and prevent unethical practices; and
- (v) Uniform pricing of drugs irrespective of the part of the country in which they are sold and the brand name they carry.

3. The petition is available on the Rajya Sabha's website ([www.rajyasabha.nic.in](http://www.rajyasabha.nic.in)) under the link: *Committees* → *Standing Committees* → *Committee on Petitions* → *Petitions with the Committee*. A copy of petition may also be obtained through a written request addressed to **Assistant Director, Committee Section (Petitions), Room No. 537, Rajya Sabha Secretariat, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.**

4. The Committee has decided to undertake consultations with the wide cross-section of the society and invite written memoranda thereon. Those desirous of submitting memoranda to the Committee may send two copies (either in English or in Hindi) thereof to **Shri Rakesh Naithani, Joint Director, Rajya Sabha Secretariat, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi – 110 001 (Tel: 011-23035433(O), 23794328 (Telefax) and E-mail: [rsc2pet@sansad.nic.in](mailto:rsc2pet@sansad.nic.in))** latest by 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2012.

5. Comments/suggestions, etc. submitted to the Committee would form part of its record and would be treated as confidential. Any violation in this regard may attract breach of privilege of the Committee.

6. Those who are willing to appear before the Committee besides submitting written comments/suggestions may indicate so. However, the Committee's decision in this regard shall be final.

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