PRESS RELEASE NO-922

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT <u>PRESS RELEASE</u> DIRECTORATE OF DRUGS CONTROL, CHENNAI-6

The Government of India have amended the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940 with effect from 10th August 2009, with a view to control the manufacture and sale of spurious and adultrated drugs.

Any person who manufactures, for sale or sells any drugs deemed to be adultrated or spurious and which when used, by any person, is likely to cause his death or to cause harm on his body, as would amount to grevious hurt, within the meanings of Section 320 of I.P.C., shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than ten years but which may extend to imprisonment for life and shall also be liable to fine which shall not be less than ten lakh rupees or three times value of the drugs confiscated, whichever is more.

To identify such spurious manufacturers, the Government of India has devised a system for giving monetary reward, to the whistle blowers, who can take risk of providing the information, about the perpetrators of such crime.

The reward scheme shall be applicable for whistle blowers, in the area of drugs, cosmetics and medical devices.

The reward of maximum of upto 20% of the total cost of consignments seized will be payable to the informer, which should not in any case exceed Rs. 25 lakh in each case.

25% of the amount will be given at the time of filing of the charge sheet in the court of law.

25% of the amount will be given to them at the time of disposal of the case in favour of the Government in the first court of law.

The remaining 50% amount will be paid only when the case has been finally disposed of in favour of the Government and no appeal with respect to the matter is pending in any other Court of Law in the country.

The whistleblowers / informers shall provide such information to the Drugs Control authorities of Central or State Government or to the Nodal Officers as given in the website <u>www.cdsco.nic.in.</u>

V.K. SUBBURAJ, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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