

**PRESS RELEASE (31/07/2010)**

On 23.07.2010, Drug Inspectors Team raided M/s. Surya Medicals at No.8, TN.H.B. Colony, Kotturpuram, Chennai-85 and found that they were stocking for the sale of certain date expired drugs along with other saleable drugs in contravention of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules. It was also noticed that they were selling drugs without prescription of Registered Medical Practitioners, in the absence of Pharmacist and selling drugs without cash/credit bills and also not maintaining the prescription register. Further it was also noticed that they were selling certain drugs by altering the label of the drugs. The team has seized the expired drugs from the medical shop and obtained the custody order from the IV Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Saidapet. Further investigation is under progress.

On 24.07.2010 based on the News item in Deccan Chronicle that, abortion pills are being sold at Tirupur without prescriptions of Registered Medical Practitioners, Joint surprise raids were conducted. After conducting preliminary enquiries the inspection team had short listed the shops who have acquired the tablets **“MT pill”** and **“unwanted tablets”** which are being used as abortion pills and conducted inspection at 17 medical shops. During the raid, it was noticed that 16 shops violated the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules as they had sold these drugs to the patients without the prescriptions of Registered Medical Practitioners.

The legal action has been initiated under Drugs and Cosmetic Act and Rules against M/s Kutty Medicals, M/s Bawa Medical Mart, M/s Geetha Medical Store, M/s Ananda Departmental Stores, M/s Arasu Medicals, M/s Raja Medicals, M/s Jeeva Medicals, M/s Sri Ganga Medicals, M/s Jai Medicals, M/s Srinivasa Medicals, M/s Sripathy Medicals, M/s Anandha Pharmacy, M/s New Alaghu Pharmacy, M/s Sri Tirupathy Medicals, M/s Sri Sivam Pharmacy and M/s Bharathi Medicals in Thirupur

On 26.07.2010, on getting information that a medical representative is selling drugs marked as *“Physician samples not for sale”* supplied by manufacturer to the trade, a team of Drug Inspectors conducted inspection at the premises of one Mr. T. Saravanan of M/s. Vanguard Therapeutics, Hyderabad at his residence situated at

No.56B, SRP Colony, Periyar Nagar, Chennai-82. During the inspection it was noticed, he had stocked huge quantity of drugs “marked as *Physician samples not for sale*” of different manufacturers and he has not produced any account or records for having stocked the above drugs with him. Hence, the Drugs Inspector has seized the stocks from his residential premises and obtained custody orders from the Honourable X Metropolitan Magistrate, Egmore. The value of the seized drugs is about Rs. 2,00,000/- (Two lakhs) and further investigation is in progress.

The Directorate of Drugs Control has accorded sanction to prosecute 61 firms from April 2010 to till date. During this period, 32 cases have been decided in various Courts in the State and an amount of Rs. 4,51,000/- has been imposed as fine under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules by various Courts.

M.R.K.PANNEERSELVAM  
Minister for Health