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Govt stops mulmin vitamin drops for safety concerns

TEENA THACKER NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

Citing safety concerns, the government has directed to withdraw well-known vitadrops, "mulmin min drops", prescribed for oneyear-old children. In a notice to the company, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has asked the manufacturers to stop manufacturing, sale, distribution and import of mulmin drops and asked the company to recall the existing products from the market with immediate effect.

According to the FSSAI, the scientific panel for functional foods, nutraceuticals, dietetic products had earlier asked the company to submit safety information and rationale for "pine bar" addition to the product, including the level of minerals in the product.

Significantly, the scientific panel, which considered the application along with the information supplied

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by the company recently, observed that the applicant had reduced the composition of ingredients. Moreover, experts also expressed that the applicant had reduced certain nutrients like zinc in the process.

Furthermore, the scientific panel also observed that the product is meant for children of one year and observed that unsupervised use of the product "may have safety concerns" for children. It also noted that the product is a combination of synthetic vitamins and minerals. Accordingly, the scientific panel recommended "rejection of the product" with immediate effect.

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The NOC was issued by the FSSAI for the product in 2012 for the period of one year. The scientific panel later asked the firm to declare ingredients as per serving size and to revise the label declaration so as to be compliant with food labelling regulations.