

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3446  
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2005  
DRUG TESTING LABORATORIES  
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of ISM &H pharmacies in the country do not adopt good manufacturing practices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether there is lack of adequate number of drug testing laboratories to check and maintain quality control of drugs used in ISM &H ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government has initiated a centrally sponsored programme for strengthening of state drug testing laboratories;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Union Government to improve the quality control of drugs used in ISM &H?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir, it has been emphasized on the States to ensure compliance of Good Manufacturing Practices(GMP) by all the ISM&H pharmacies. Some States have also cancelled licences of ISM & H pharmacies for non compliance with GMP. There is a Centrally sponsored scheme under which financial assistance up to Rs.5 Lakhs is provided to ISM units for becoming GMP Compliant.

(c)&(d): There are two Central Government Laboratories i.e. Pharmacopoeial Laboratory for Indian Medicine, Ghaziabad, and Homoeopathy Pharmacopoeial Laboratory, Ghaziabad. In addition 22 State Drug Testing laboratories of ASU&H Drugs have been established for testing of Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani & Homeopathy (ASU&H) drugs. 16 Private Drug Testing Laboratories have also been recognised for testing Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani Drugs.

(e)&(f): Central Government have implemented Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Quality Control of ASU&H drugs under which 21 Drug Testing Laboratories and 41 Pharmacies of ASU&H have been strengthened by giving financial assistance for renovation of building, modernization of machinery and equipment and contractual manpower.

(g): Government have taken following steps to improve the Quality Control of ASU&H drugs in the country:-

(i) Four pharmacopoeia Committee of Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani and Homoeopathy have been set up for preparation of respective formularies and Pharmacopoeias. These Committees have brought out official formularies of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani medicines in addition to publication of Ayurvedic & Unani Pharmacopoeias.

(ii) Centrall Sponsored Scheme of Quality Control of ASU&H drugs have been implemented.

(iii) Under section 33 (C) and section 33(D) Central Government has constituted Ayurvedic, Siddha & Unani Drugs Consultative Committee for the purpose of securing uniformity in respect of stand and Quality Control of Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani Drugs throughout India.

(iv) Ayurveda, Siddha & Unani (ASU) medicines of classical nature as well as patent and proprietary are licensed by the State Drug Licensing Authorities. Recently Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have constituted a Committee of experts to formulate guidelines for State Drug Licensing Authorities for licensing of Patent and Proprietary ASU medicines.