

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1214
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2007
HERBAL DRUG FOR DIABETICS
Mahato Shri Narahari

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

- (a) the total number of diabetic patients in the country;
- (b) whether a Herbal drug by the name 'Vijaysar' has been tested and recommended by the Indian Council of Medical Research for curing diabetic;
- (c) if so, whether the Government proposes to manufacture this herbal drug; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) According to revised estimates of WHO (2004), there are 32 million diabetic in India and the WHO (2002) has projected that India would have large number of diabetic (80 million) in the world by 2030.
- (b) to (d) Indian Council of Medical Research has conducted Task Force Muticentric clinical trials on 'Vijaysar' which showed that it is a safe formulation to be used in newly diagnosed diabetic patients and in those not controlled by intake of one oral anti-diabetic drug. Despite several attempts the Pharma industry is not willing to take up the technology transfer due to doubtful commercial viability in the long run caused by uncertain availability of raw materials for continuous supply of the standardized formulation. The problem is aggravated due to dwindling number of the 'Vijaysar' tree which has commercial value as timber and inexpensive oral synthetic drugs are already easily available in the market.