

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1899
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
CRITERIA FOR APPOINTING LOCAL CHEMIST
Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

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

- (a) the criteria for appointing local chemist attached to CGHS Dispensary;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to appoint local chemist within one kilometer range of CGHS Dispensary in order to remove inconvenience faced by CGHS beneficiaries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a): The major criteria given in the tender for appointment of authorised local chemists under CGHS is as under:-

(i) `Maximum discount offered in percentage terms on the retail price of the drug/medicine.

(ii) The CGHS generally appoints authorised chemists for a group/zone consisting of up to three dispensaries and the shop/business establishment of the applicant chemist has to be within the area of the group/zone applied for.

(iii) The applicant chemist should have a minimum annual turnover of Rs.20.00 lakh in the case of `A` class cities and a minimum annual turnover of Rs.10.00 lakh in the case of `B` class and `C` class cities.

(b) to (d): While it is convenient for the CGHS cardholders to have the CGHS authorised local chemist located as close to the dispensary as possible, it would be difficult for the CGHS to limit the shop/business establishment of the applicant chemist to within one kilometer of the dispensary as it would reduce the number of eligible tenders from chemists thereby reducing competition.