

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1539

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2010

QUALITY OF MEDICINES

Mishra Shri Govind Prasad;Singh Shri Ijyaraj ;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up any agency to examine the quality of medicines in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the further steps proposed to be taken by the Government to strengthen such mechanism;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to make new legislation to improve the regulatory structure of medicines in the country;and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI DINESH TRVEDI)

(a) & (b): The regulatory control over the quality of medicines in the country is exercised by the Central Government through the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) headed by the Drugs Controller General (India) and by the State Governments through the State Drugs Controllers under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 made thereunder. Measures have been taken by the Central Government from time to time to strengthen the mechanism for better quality control of medicines, which is an ongoing process. Recently 216 new posts in various categories in the CDSCO have been sanctioned including 137 posts of drugs inspector and 31 posts in a new category of Assistant Drugs Inspectors.

(c) & (d): The Drugs & Cosmetics (Amendment) Bill 2007 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st August,2007 containing provision inter alia for formation of Central Drugs Authority and Centralized Licensing of Drugs.