

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:504
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2010
PROMOTION OF GENERIC DRUGS UNDER NRHM
Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Jeyadural Shri S. R.

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

- (a) whether an assessment made by the Government has revealed that the practice of prescribing branded drugs is widespread even when generic alternatives are available thereby affecting the implementation of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM):
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen the NRHM by promoting generic drugs, which are cheaper and equally effective as their branded alternative?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a)to(c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 504 FOR 30TH APRIL, 2010

The 3rd Common Review Mission under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) which visited 14 States and 3 Union Territories in November, 2009, to look at the implementation issues relating to infrastructure, procurement, etc., has reported that at some places higher order medicines had been prescribed instead of basic generic drugs. The States have been requested to take appropriate remedial action.

National Rural Health Mission promotes rational drug use and strengthening of the system of procurement logistics in States to ensure uninterrupted availability of generic drugs.