

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:825

ANSWERED ON:25.02.2011

FAKE DOCTORS

Bhagat Shri Sudarshan;Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

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

- (a) whether a large number of fake doctors or quacks are operating in the Indian Medical System resulting in deaths of lakhs of people in the country;
- (b) if so, the estimated number of such fake doctors/quacks present in the country;
- (c) the number of fake doctors/quacks identified during the last three years and the current year alongwith the action taken against them;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to formulate a separate law in view of the inadequacy of the present provisions to check the activities of such fake doctors/quacks; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Health falls on the concurrent list of the Constitution of India. And State Governments are empowered to monitor and take action against unqualified medical practitioners. The data relating to unqualified medical practitioners is not centrally maintained.

(d) & (e) So far as modern system of Allopathic Medicine is concerned, the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 prohibits a person other than a medical practitioner enrolled on a State Medical Register to practice medicine in the State. Punishment of imprisonment or a term which may extend to one year or with a fine which may extend to Rs.1,000/- or both is also prescribed. For Indian systems of medicine, Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 provides that no person other than a practitioner of Indian medicine who possesses a recognized medical qualification and is enrolled on a State Register or the Central Register of Indian Medicine shall practice in Indian medicine in any State. Further, the Act provides that any person who acts in contravention of this provision shall be punished with imprisonment or a term which may extend to one year or with a fine which may extend to Rs. 1,000/- or with both.