

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3195
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011
SELF MEDICATION
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of aggressive marketing being done by certain pharmaceutical companies of their products in print and electronic media which encourage self medication;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take steps to stop these advertisements which encourage self diagnosis and self treatment;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other measures taken/proposed to deter people from self diagnosis and self treatment and also educated them about its dangerous effects?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (e): The advertisement of drugs are regulated under the provisions of Drugs & Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisement) Act, 1954 which prohibits advertisement of drugs for certain diseases, disorders or conditions prescribed under its Schedule. Pharmaceutical companies, therefore, cannot advertise drugs not permitted under the said Act. The Act is administered by the State Governments. In case of advertisements in contravention of the Drugs & Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisement) Act, 1954, the State Drugs Control Authorities are empowered to take necessary action against the offenders under the provisions of the said Act.