

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3115
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011
ALLOCATION OF QUOTA OF NARCOTIC DRUGS
Saha Shri Anup Kumar

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the system of sending estimates and reports to the International Narcotic Control Board (INCB) has been streamlined;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the procedure of allocation of quota of narcotic drugs has also been shifted from Drug Controller of States to the Ministry of Finance; and
- (d) if so, the reasons and the justification therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) to (d): The system of sending estimates and reports to the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) has been streamlined in 2010. Prior to that, the estimates of narcotic drugs approved by the INCB were allocated as State-wise quotas by the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Thereafter, the authorities responsible for drug control in the States namely, State Drug Controller / Food and Drug Administrator, allocated the same to various pharmaceutical companies within the State. For seeking information on utilization of the narcotic drugs, the same channel was being followed. The responsibility for reporting to INCB was that of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs, who would seek information from the DCGI, who in turn would seek the same from the State Drug Controllers, who sought it from the companies. This was an administrative arrangement without a legal backing. Because of involvement of several agencies under different Ministries, problems were encountered in this system. Often inaccurate/ delayed information was received, which in turn resulted in delays in reporting to INCB. In some cases, the State Drug Controllers allocated quotas to companies within the State, the total of which exceeded the quota allotted to the State itself. In order to address this situation, the system of allocation of quotas of narcotic drugs to users in the country has now been entrusted to the Narcotics Commissioner, under the Ministry of Finance. In the new system, the Narcotics Commissioner directly allots the INCB approved estimates of narcotic drugs for the country to the pharmaceutical companies and also seeks information about utilization of the same, directly from the companies, without the involvement of the State Drug Controllers or the Drug Controller General of India. Suitable changes in the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Rules, 1985 have been made to provide a legal backing to this procedure.

Regarding reporting to INCB, NDPS Rules have been amended to give powers to the Central Government to appoint an officer for this purpose. The Central Government has designated the Director General, Narcotics Control Bureau, in exercise of such powers.