

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:885
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2011
DISTRIBUTION OF EXPIRED MEDICINES UNDER NRHM
Das Shri Ram Sundar

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

- (a) whether the expired medicines/drugs are being distributed to the people under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), run by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the fund spent by the Government on the distribution of medicines during the last three years and the current year, State/ UT wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to check such malpractices, if any, in future?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a)to (c) No. Under the National Rural Health Mission, procurement and distribution of drugs are done by the States/UTs. This is in addition to the drugs procured and supplied out of their own Plan budget. States/UTs reflect their requirements for drugs in their Annual Programme Implementation Plans. To streamline the procurement and distribution of drugs in the States/UTs, Government of India has advised the State Governments to set up independent procurement agency on the pattern of Tamilnadu Medical Services Corporation Limited (TNMSC). States have also been supported to install Procurement Management Information System (ProMIS) for better of supplies of drugs and logistic management.

Government of India also procures and supplies medicines, vaccines and contraceptives for some selected programmes under NRHM. In all such cases, the tender conditions stipulate that there should be a balance of at least 5/6 Shelf-life after shipment.