

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1836

ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012

FAKE DOCTORS

Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar;Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar;Premdas Shri ;Shivanagouda Shri Shivaramagouda

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of a number of quacks or fake doctors, both in allopathic and Indian Systems of Medicines extracting money from the people in the name of treatment;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) the number of such quacks/fake doctors against whom action has been taken during the last three years alongwith the steps taken/proposed to check such practices;
- (d) whether various medicines including allopathic and herbal, advertised by these quacks in print and electronic media are approved by the Government;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the steps taken/proposed by the Government to ban advertisement, manufacturing and distribution of such medicines and appoint more doctors, particularly ayurveda, unani and homoeopathic doctors in the hospitals in order to deter people from using the services of quacks?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) No specific complaint on the issue has been received in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- (c) The data relating to unqualified medical practioners is not centrally maintained. However, insofar as practice of allopathic medicine is concerned, the Indian Medical Council Act 1956 provides that only a person with recognized qualification as per the Act can be registered as medical practitioner and any person who acts in contravention shall be punished with imprisonment or with fine or with both. The State Governments/State Medical Councils are expected to take action under these provisions against unqualified practice of allopathic medicine.
- (d) No.
- (e) Does not arise.
- (f) Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisement) Act 1954 prohibits advertisement of certain drugs for treatment of certain diseases and disorders. Further it prohibits any person or company to take part in advertisement which give false impression or makes a false claim for the drug or mislead the people. The enforcement of these provisions is the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government under NRHM, is providing financial support to State Governments for engagement of staff on contractual basis. The Central Government has also taken various steps like multi skilling of doctors to over come the shortage of specialist, provision of incentives to serve in rural areas, relaxed requirements for setting up of medical colleges, etc., to increase the availability of health professionals in the country.