

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5864

ANSWERED ON:11.05.2012

ESSENTIAL DRUGS

Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Lingam Shri P.;Viswanathan Shri P.

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

(a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of takeover of certain Indian companies in health care segment and working on various healthcare schemes including the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in the country by multinational drug companies;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the outcome thereof;

(c) the follow up action taken/proposed by the Government on Drug Pricing policy prepared by the Department of Pharmaceuticals to bring all essential drugs under price control;

(d) whether the Government proposes to open community pharmacies in Central Government hospitals in order to regulate the prices of life saving drugs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) & (b): Yes. At present the Foreign Direct Investment proposals in existing pharmaceutical companies in the country are routed through Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) route.

(c): The Group of Ministers on National Pharmaceutical Policy is already seized of the matter.

(d) & (e): The Safdarjung Hospital in New Delhi has tendered for a 24X7 chemist shop to sell generic medicines at prices below the maximum retail price (MRP). The Department of Pharmaceuticals is also running a scheme of Jan Aushadhi Stores for sale of generic medicines through dedicated sale outlets.