GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1367
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012
VIOLATION OF MEDICAL ETHICS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the alleged nexus between certain doctors and drug manufacturing companies in violation of the Indian Medical Council (Professional conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) the number of complaints received, enquiry conducted, action recommended and punishment awarded during each of the last three years and the current year so far for violation of the above regulations, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to make existing provisions more stringent to curb the practice of doctors accepting various favours from the drug companies; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISRTY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD)

- (a) & (b) Yes. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has received such complaints against doctors and the same have been referred to Medical Council of India (MCI) for taking appropriate action. The MCI takes action in such complaints as per provisions of the Indian Medical Council (Professional conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002.
- (c) As per the information provided by Medical Council of India, the details of number of complaints received, enquiry conducted, action recommended and punishment awarded during each of the last three years are as under:

2009-10 2010-11 2011-12

Total Complaints/ appeals received 769 824 702

Referred to State Medical Councils 254 468 343 / State Governments

Registration temporarily removed 16 10 3

Warning given 6 4 1

Under consideration/pending Nil 6 168

(d) & (e) Yes, the Government proposes to make the existing provisions more stringent through "Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices" (UCPMP) proposed by the Department of Pharmaceuticals.