

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:288  
ANSWERED ON:31.08.2012  
SMS FACILITY FOR PATIENTS  
Baske Shri Pulin Bihar

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to launch Short Message Service (SMS) facility by which patients can get information about affordable alternative to the medicine prescribed by the doctors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the salient features of the facility;
- (c) the time by which the facility is likely to be launched;
- (d) whether consultation with doctors is necessary for the patients before popping the affordable alternative medicine under the said facility; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a)to(e): Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, has conceived this scheme and details thereof are being worked out by them.