

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:648
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2012
INDIAN SYSTEM OF MEDICINE IN ARMED FORCES
Singh Shri Ravneet

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian System of Medicine have not been introduced in the armed forces in the country till date;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for re-imburement of expenses on Ayurvedic treatment of the Army personnel who opt for Indian System of Medicine?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 648 FOR ANSWER ON 26.11.2012

(a) & (b): No, Madam. The Indian System of Medicine has not been introduced in the Armed Forces. Detailed reasoning for not introducing the system is as follows:-

(i) The feasibility of introduction of the Indian System of Medicine in the Armed Forces has been repeatedly deliberated upon by various Committees constituted for this purpose in the past. These committees have not recommended introduction of the Indian System of Medicine in the Armed Forces.

(ii) The Armed Forces Medical Services are responsible for providing comprehensive (preventive, promotive, curative and rehabilitative) medical care to its entitled clientele. The system is based on the allopathic system of medicine.

(iii) Combat medical and surgical requirements are the pivot on which the structure of Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) revolves.

(iv) There are specific requirements to handle the emergencies in modern medicare such as myocardial infarction, arrhythmias, cardiac arrest, intestinal obstruction, head injuries, polytrauma, renal failure etc. which can best be taken care by allopathic physician and surgeons.

(c) Does not arise.