

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:218  
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2012  
STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS  
Vinay Kumar Alias Vinnu Shri

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of lack of good storage and distribution practices particularly relating to the highly expensive and life saving drugs among the retail chemists in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its adverse effect on the quality of such drugs;
- (c) the number of retail chemists found guilty and penalised for the same during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has formulated/proposed any guidelines for good storage and distribution practices for retail chemists in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the mechanism put in place by the Government to ensure compliance of the above guidelines and the manner in which the consumers are likely to be benefited as a result thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.218 FOR 7TH DECEMBER, 2012

- (a) Under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940 and Rules made thereunder, storage of drugs in violation of the prescribed storage conditions constitute an offence.
- (b) Improper storage and distribution of drugs may result in the deterioration of potency of the drug.
- (c) A statement indicating the number of retail chemists found guilty and penalised for not storing the drugs as prescribed, during the last three years and the current year State/UT-wise as per the information made available by the State Drugs Control Authorities in the country, is annexed.
- (d) The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has prepared guidelines for the Good Distribution Practices of biological products and uploaded the same on its web-site.
- (e) The CDSCO and the State Drugs Control Authorities conduct inspections of the chemists, the distributors and manufacturing premises to ensure compliance to the provisions of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act and the Rules made thereunder, including the above Guidelines, to maintain the quality of the products.