

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4349
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2013
INFECTION THROUGH TATTOOS
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

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

- (a) the estimated number of tattoo parlours in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether tattoos are a potential cause for spreading hepatitis B and C virus and also HIV;
- (c) if so, the number of such cases of infections reported in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any steps/raids to ensure that the tattoo artists replace needles and ink bottles for each customer; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

- (a) Information on number of tattoo parlours in the country is not available.
- (b) Tattoos are a potential cause of spreading Hepatitis B and C virus and also HIV, if the infection control practices are not properly followed.
- (c) Information on reported infection is not available.
- (d) & (e) Tattooing is not regulated under Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules made thereunder.