

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:250

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2015

GENERIC MEDICINES

Sawant Shri Arvind Ganpat;Venkatesh Babu Shri T.G.

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

- (a) whether the doctors in various Government hospitals reportedly prescribe the costlier and branded medicines instead of generic medicines to the patients for personal gains and profits and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted/proposes to conduct any probe in this regard and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government against the erring doctors;
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to end collusion of doctors and pharmaceutical companies/private chemists in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to make it mandatory for the medical practitioners to prescribe only generic drugs instead of branded ones; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 250 FOR 13TH MARCH, 2015

(a)&(b): Health being a State subject, no such information is maintained centrally. However, as far as three Central Government Hospitals viz. Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi, Dr. RML Hospital, New Delhi and Lady Hardinge Medical College and associated Hospitals, New Delhi are concerned, doctors have been advised to write generic medicines as far as possible. However, for certain diseases where generic medicines are not available, doctors have to prescribe other than generic medicines. In Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, instructions have already been issued to doctors to prescribe generic medicines. In addition, with a view to promoting generic medicines, OPD card is stamped with "Supply Following Drugs or Equivalent Generic Drugs". AIIMS, New Delhi, has a drug formulary framed on generic terminology. The doctors and residents of the Institute have been advised to prescribe generic medicines as far as possible. AIIMS, New Delhi is providing certain generic medicines to its OPD patients free of cost at New Delhi and Jhajjar campuses.

(c): Department of Pharmaceuticals has prepared a Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practice (UCPMP), which is to be adopted by all the pharmaceutical companies voluntarily for a period of six months w.e.f. 1.1.2015.

(d)&(e): Medical Council of India (MCI) in its regulation namely the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulation, 2002, under clause 1.5 has stated that "Every physician should, as far as possible, prescribe drugs with generic names and he/she shall ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drugs." MCI has already taken steps to enhance Generic Medicine prescription by doctors by issuing circular to all the Deans of Medical Colleges, Directors of Post Graduate Institutes and Presidents of State Medical Councils in this regard.