

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2512

ANSWERED ON:25.07.2014

ESSENTIAL DRUGS

Ranjan (Pappu Yadav) Shri Rajesh;Ranjan Smt. Ranjeet;Venkatesh Babu Shri T.G.

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

- (a) the number of drugs enlisted as essential or life saving drugs in the country;
- (b) whether casualties on account of shortage of certain essential or life saving drugs have been reported in the country in the recent past;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to declare more number of drugs as essential or life saving drugs in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a): Presently, 348 medicines have been included in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), 2011

(b): No.

(e): Does not arise.

(d) & (e): The Government has already entrusted the work of revision of the NLEM, 2011 to a technical committee of experts under the chairmanship of the Secretary, Department of Health Research & Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).