

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 164  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2017  
COOPERATION IN HEALTH SECTOR**

**\*164. SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:  
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:**

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

(a) whether India and Cuba have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for enhanced cooperation in the health sector recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the aims, objectives and the key areas identified for cooperation in this MoU;

(c) the extent to and the manner in which it will be beneficial to the Indian health sector; and

(d) the time by which the MoU will be implemented alongwith the present status thereof ?

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

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 164\* FOR 29<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2017**

(a): A bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between India and Cuba on 06<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 for cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine.

(b) to (d): The objectives of the MoU are for establishing comprehensive inter-ministerial and inter-institutional cooperation in the field of health with the aim of upgrading the quality and reach of human, material and infrastructural resources involved in healthcare, medical education & training and research in both countries for mutual benefit. The main areas of cooperation covered under the MoU are as follows:

- (i) Exchange and training of medical doctors, officials, other health professionals and experts;
- (ii) Assistance in development of human resources, health services and setting up of health care facilities;
- (iii) Short term training of human resources in health;
- (iv) Regulation of pharmaceuticals, medical devices and exchange of information;
- (v) Promotion of business development opportunities in pharmaceuticals and others identified by parties;
- (vi) Procurement of generic and essential drugs and assistance in sourcing of drug supplies;
- (vii) Procurement of health equipment and pharmaceutical products; and
- (viii) Any other area of cooperation as may be mutually decided upon.

The MoU will encourage joint initiatives and technology development in the health sector. It will strengthen bilateral ties between India and Cuba. The validity of the MoU is for a period of five (5) years from the date of signing, with provision of further extension for another five (5) years. There is a provision to set up Joint Working Group to further elaborate the details of cooperation and to oversee the implementation of the MoU.

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