

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2442
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9TH MARCH, 2018**

FAKE DOCTORS/QUACKS

**2442. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE:
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that a fake doctor/quack has made more than 20 people HIV positive by the use of infected syringes in Uttar Pradesh, if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) the mechanism available with the Government to identify such fake doctors along with the number of such doctors identified by the Government across the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether a large part of population are being trapped in the clutches of such fake doctors particularly in rural areas of the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to keep a check on such fake doctors and to provide adequate medical facilities in rural areas of the country?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): The instance of alleged spread of HIV infection through a quack using unsafe syringes came to the notice of National AIDS Control Organization, MoHFW in the month of February, 2018. Enquiry has been conducted into the matter which revealed that from the month of July, 2017 to January, 2018, 46 HIV positive cases were identified through routine preventive check-ups using camp approach catering to the migrant population and their families. Most of these cases were reported as due to high risk behavior of the individuals. All 46 HIV positive cases were initiated on Anti Retroviral Treatment (ART) after the diagnosis was confirmed.

(b) to (e): Section 15 of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 prohibits a person other than medical practitioner enrolled on a State Medical Register to practice medicine in the State. Health being a State subject, the primary responsibility to deal with cases of quacks lies with the respective State Governments`.

The Central Government, keeping view of the above, in August, 2017 requested Chief Ministers of all the States to take appropriate action against quacks under the law and also to evolve suitable policies to ensure availability of quality health workforce in rural areas. Further, in February, 2018, Chief Secretaries of the all the States / UTs have also been requested to take corrective steps in this regard.