

(iii) Shalakyatantra and (iv) Panchakarma with admission capacity of four seats in each subject. Permission could not be given to the Government Ayurveda College, Kannur because the college did not possess the necessary staff and infrastructure prescribed in the regulations.

Toxication of milk products

90. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has noticed any case as that of in China, of toxic contamination of milk by any of the major public and private milk producing companies;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken to arrest and discourage such unfair practices; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No such instances have come to the notice of this Ministry about toxic contamination of milk with melamine by any of the major public and private milk producing companies.

(b) and (c) Sale of milk or a milk product containing a substance not found in milk, except as provided in the PFA Rules, 1955 is prohibited. Any violation of the provision of the Act/Rules attracts legal action.

The Food (Health) Authorities of the States/UTs who are responsible for implementation of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act in their States/UT.s have been requested to keep a strict vigil on quality of milk specially with regard to contamination of milk with melamine, a compound which is used to form synthetic resins and not permitted in food products, as reported in China.

Strike by doctors in Andhra Pradesh

91. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the patients in hospitals suffered due to the strike of doctors in Andhra Pradesh recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that many deaths occurred due to strike in the agency areas like East and West Godavari, Visakhapatnam districts in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, what action Government has taken on doctors; and

(e) what guidelines the Ministry will issue in such circumstances to the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) Health being a state subject, the information with regard to the disruption of patient care services due to the strike of doctors are not maintained centrally. However, so far the Central Government Hospitals are concerned, the

patient care services affected due to the strike by the doctors, nurses and other staffs are closely monitored. Contingency plans are available in each of the Central Government Hospitals to avoid disruption of the patient care services.

Clinical trial on new malaria drug

92. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to junk the anti-malarial drug chloroquine in favour of a new drug combination;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether any clinical trials of the new combination of drugs have been carried out; and

(d) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Chloroquine is being used for the treatment of *P. vivax* in entire country and *P. falciparum* cases in areas where Pf. parasite is sensitive to chloroquine.

ACT (Artesunate plus Sulfadoxine Pyrimethamine) combination is being used for the treatment of confirmed *P. falciparum* cases in chloroquine resistant areas and identified high Pf. predominant districts of the country.

(c) and (d) Various clinical trials on ACT combination have been carried out by research institutions like NIMR.

All the combinations have shown excellent efficacy (cure rate >95%) and are well tolerated. Details about the drugs that have been evaluated are enclosed as statement.

Statement

Clinical trials conducted by with Artesunate combination therapy at National Institute Malaria Research.

Sl.No.	ACT	Phase of Trial	Collaboration	Study Site
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Artemether-Lumefantrine	Surveillance	USAID	Assam and Orissa
2.	Artekin (Dihydroartemisinin+ Priperaquine Phosphate) (Fixed Dose)	III	MMV	Guwahati, Mangalore, Goa
3.	AS+AQ (Artesunate + Amodiaquine) (Fixed Dose)	III	DNDi	Ranchi, Rourkela