

**Discontentment among Scientists of
Central Council for Research in
Unani Medicine**

2195. SHRI SHEO KUMAR MISHRA;
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a growing discontentment and frustration among scientists of (i) Central Council for Research in Unani Medicines, and (ii) Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha for lack of promotional avenues-

(b) whether Government have received any representation from them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for redressal of their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ
KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(e) The representation is 'about lack of promotional avenues for Scientists working in these Councils.

(d) The Councils have been advised to formulate merit promotion scheme on the lines of those existing in other scientific organisations like ICMR, CSIR, etc. and in the light of the recommendations made by the Fourth Pay Commission.

Psychotherapeutic Drugs

2196. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI
MAHISHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have written to Kelkar Committee that Psychotherapeutic drugs are not essential;

(b) whether it is a fact that these have been certified as essential in the WHO list;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Promethazine, Chlorpromazine are Psychotherapeutic drugs and are being produced from imported penultimate stages;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for 'his ministry to certify these drugs as non-essential and recommended for deleting them from category-II drugs list; and

(e) whether Government are aware that one tablet of Serenac 25 mg. is being at Rs. 3/?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ
KHAPARDE): (a), (b) and (d) With reference to a particular query raised by the Department of Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had clarified that certain psychotherapeutic drugs belonging to Benzodiazepine groups, such as Diazepam, has a broad spectrum therapeutic action such as anti-anxiety, anti-epileptic and muscle relaxant, etc. It has also been clarified that compared to the West, the problem of psychosomatic diseases is less acute in the country and the drugs required for tropical diseases, etc. should be considered more essential compared to psychotherapeutic agents. Accordingly, drugs like psychotherapeutic agents should make room for drugs considered more essential in the context of country's disease pattern so far as categorisation is concerned. This recommendation for deletion made to the Department of Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had not written to the Kelkar Committee.

WHO's essential drug list gives guidelines of drugs for each therapeutic group including psychotherapeutic drugs.

Import of penultimate stages of drugs is based on a consideration that at a given point of time manufacture

of certain drugs has not been possible from the earlier stages. This factor does not necessarily constitute a relationship with categorisation.

(c) and (e) As per the information received from Ministry of Industry, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, in respect of parts (c) and (e), the reply is as follows:

(c) Promethazine is used as an anti-histamine/psychic sedative and Chlorpromazine as a sedative/antiemetic. Production of both these drugs is not monitored. However, one unit has reported production of Promethazine and Chlorpromazine from imported intermediates. Chlorpromazine has also been licensed for production from basic stage to another unit.

(e) As per the provisions of Drugs Prices Control Order, 1987, formulation Serenac is price decontrolled and the manufacturer is free to revise the price. However, Government is keeping a watch on price movements of price decontrolled drugs and has intervened wherever found necessary.

Sales turn over of Iron Preparations

2197. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK: DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: DR. C. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Iron preparations, which have a turn over of more than Rupees 100 crores, have been price decontrolled;

(b) whether it is a fact that these preparations are used for Maternal Health and Anaemia among children, infants and women;

(c) it is also a fact that brands which have huge turn over like Dumasules, Autrin, Neoferrum, Fesofar, Fersolate and Feironicum have been price decontrolled on the basis of withdrawal

of recommendation for price control by his ministry; and

(d) if so, what are the basis of withdrawal of recommendation and what steps have been taken to investigate the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d) The Expert Committee set up by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to review the Category I list of National Health Programme drugs, has only now recommended for price control of Iron preparation and other drugs used for the Maternal and Child Health Programme under Category I of the Drugs Prices Control Order, 1987. The recommendation is to be considered for onward transmission to the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals. The question of 'withdrawal of recommendation' does not, therefore, arise.

Drug Sampling Procedure

2198. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the drug sampling procedure under the Drugs and Cosmetic Act is costly, complicated and has not been changed in the last 48 years;

(b) if so, what are the details of the procedure;

(c) whether the WHO Drug consultant, has given his recommendation on this matter;

(d) whether Government propose to change the sampling procedure; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ