

Wodrag, Chairman of the Health Committee in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe that in order to promote their patented drug and vaccines against the Swine flu, pharmaceutical companies influenced scientists and official agencies, responsible for public health standards to alarm Governments worldwide and make them squander, scarce health resources.

The matter was raised by the Government of India in the Executive Board meeting of World Health Organization held at Geneva in January, 2010 and asked WHO to clarify to all member countries the factual position so that the credibility of public health programmes does not get eroded by such allegations.

World Health Organization has thereafter written to all member countries refuting the allegation and confirming that the outbreak of Influenza A H1N1 was indeed a pandemic.

- (b) No.
- (c) Does not arise.

Fake drugs in the market

1284. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that large scale fake drugs are supplied in the market;
- (b) if so, the number of raids occurred during the last three years;
- (c) what action Government has taken against those persons who are involved in this;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that some Government officials are also helping in this illegal business; and
- (e) if so, the reactions of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) No.

(b) As per the details provided by the State Drugs Controllers, 9765 raids were conducted in the last three years.

(c) Investigations have been carried out in all the cases leading to filing of criminal prosecutions and cancellation of licences.

(d) No reports have been received in respect of involvement of Government officials in the manufacture and sale of spurious drugs.

- (e) Does not arise.

Opening of medical colleges in Bundelkhand, Uttar Pradesh

†1285. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether suggestions have been received to open All India Institute of Medical Sciences like medical institute in Bundelkhand area of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes.

(b) Government has received requests for establishing an AIIMS-like institution in Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh. However, Ministry has already finalized the first and second phase of PMSSY in which AIIMS-like institution in Bundelkhand area is not included.

Fraudulent tactics employed by medical colleges

1286. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that touts/brokers are used by several medical colleges for obtaining clearance for various medical courses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken to check these touts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) No.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Honorarium for ASHA

†1287. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the honorarium being given to the Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) workers is sufficient in this period of inflation;

(b) if not, whether there is any plan to give dearness allowance to them on the line of Government employees;

(c) whether Government has any information of running 'trade union' amongst these employees;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Ministry is in a position to accept the demand being raised by these employees in an organized manner to increase the honorarium and to give them status of Government employees?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) ASHA is an honorary volunteer who has been selected by the Community and are entitled to performance based incentives as decided by the State. She is not intended to be full time or regular employee.

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