

Co-ordinated effort to prevent pandemic diseases

98. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that it has been felt to have a co-ordinated effort by different countries to promote awareness and prevent outbreak of pandemic diseases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government had taken any initiative with other countries in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response thereto?

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

The International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005) that came into force in 2007 is the key global instrument for protection against the international spread of diseases including pandemics and provide a public health response to the international spread of disease in ways that are commensurate with and restricted to public health risks, Under IHR the efforts of countries to protect against international spread of disease is co-ordinated by World Health Organisation. As per IHR regulations Countries sharing common borders coordinate arrangements concerning prevention or control of international transmission of disease at borders and ground crossings. India is a signatory to International Health Regulations.

Supply of cheap drugs through government-owned medical stores

†99. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has prepared any framework to contain the prices of life saving drugs;
- (b) whether Government proposes to open Government-owned stores in each city of the country to provide medicines at controlled rate to the general public;
- (c) whether a few such stores have been opened; if so, the names of the States where such medical stores have been opened; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.