

- (ii) Incentive at the rate of 10% of the marks obtained for each year of service in remote or difficult areas upto the maximum of 30% of the marks obtained in the entrance test for admissions in Post Graduate Medical Courses.

Policy for manufacturing generic drugs

1024. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a policy for manufacture of generic drugs in the country; and
(b) what are the restrictions put in place for multinational companies to manufacture drugs in India?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The policy of the Government is generally to promote use of generic drugs in the country.

(b) The Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules made thereunder do not distinguish between a multinational or an Indian company for the purpose of grant of manufacturing license. The applicant, is, however, required to comply with the conditions of license and follow Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) to ensure that the drugs manufactured by them are of standard quality.

Abnormal increase in vaccine-related deaths

1025. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the vaccine related deaths have shown an abnormal increase since the year 2008 in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether it is also a fact that three major public sector undertakings at Coonoor, Chennai and Kasauli, manufacturing vaccines have been closed since January, 2008 and the vaccines have been procured from private sector since then;
(d) if so, whether the reported deaths are attributed to the vaccines procured from the private sector; and
(e) if not, what are the reasons for such increase in deaths since 2008?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) and (b) The reported number of cases of death of children due to Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) have shown an increase since 2008. Year-wise details are under:—

Year	Number of AEFI deaths
2010	138
2009	116
2008	111

(c) Yes. The licenses to manufacture vaccines by Central Research Institute, Kasauli, BCG Vaccine Laboratory, Guindy and Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor were suspended in January, 2008. However, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare *vide* order dated 26.02.2010 has revoked the order of suspension. Vaccines were procured from private sector, even when the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) were functional as requirement of vaccine exceeded production by PSUs.

(d) No. None of the reported deaths of children has been attributed to the vaccines procured from private sector.

(e) The increased number of reported AEFI deaths could be due to strengthening of AEFI monitoring as under:—

- Guidelines for AEFI have been revised in 2010 and disseminated to all the programme officers in the States and districts.
- Training of various categories of primary health care staff has also been carried out so as to improve reporting, minimize programmatic errors and improve case management of AEFI cases.
- The District/State/National AEFI committees have been constituted to regularly review and analyze all the reported AEFI cases.
- Supervisory visits are made to ensure regular reporting and to minimize programmatic errors.

National Health Act

1026. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed National Health Act aims to ensure healthcare for all, as in the absence of such legislation, effective implementation of schemes were not possible;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken to enact the said Act immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) to (c) As of now, Government has no plan to introduce the National Health Bill.