(b) whether any special consideration has been given to the North Eastern States particularly Nagaland; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) As per information, there is no Programme entitled 'Nutrition Delivery Programme to check malnutrition'.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Task Force on fake drugs

2264. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a 12 member committee Task Force headed by the Director General (DG) of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to tackle the problems of spurious and fake drugs openly available and being sold in medical stores;

(b) if so, whether the committee has submitted any initial/final report to Government;

(c) if so, the recommendations thereof and, if not, when it is expected;

(d) whether it is a fact that approximately 5.6 per cent of drugs in the country do not adhere to standard quality; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) A 16 Member Task Force has been set up by the Government under the Chairmanship of the Director General, ICMR and co-Chairmanship of Director General, Directorate General Health Services for formulating a long term policy and strategy for strengthening of drug sector in the country. The Task Force has constituted sub-groups to go into various aspects including the specific issue of spurious and adulterated drugs. The Task Force has been asked to expedite its report.

(a) and (e) As per a countrywide survey conducted by the Government in 2009 to assess the extent of spurious drugs in the country, out of 24,136 samples collected for analysis, only 0.046% samples were found spurious.

High caffeine content in carbonated beverages sold in the country

†2265. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has fixed the parameter of 145 ppm for caffeine in carbonated beverages;

(b) whether Government is aware that most of the energy drink manufacturers in the country are maintaining the level of 320 ppm, causing diseases like heart attack, stroke and paralysis;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to prescribe and control amount of caffeine in energy drinks; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) to (d) Yes. Under the Food Safety and Standards Regulations, 2011, use of caffeine not exceeding 145 mg/litre is permitted in carbonated water. However, at present, there is no limit prescribed for energy drinks. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has initiated necessary action to fix the level of caffeine in energy drinks.

AYUSH dispensaries in Gujarat

2266. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposal of the State Government of Gujarat for the construction of the AYUSH dispensaries, grants for the purchase of medicines and contingency expenditure in these dispensaries, is lying pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said proposal is likely to be approved and the amount to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Government of India has received proposals from Government of Gujarat for financial assistance for upgradation of AYUSH dispensaries, purchase of medicines and contingency expenditure in AYUSH dispensaries under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of AYUSH Hospitals and Dispensaries. The details of the proposals received and grants sanctioned during 2008-09 to 2011-12 till date are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) Government of Gujarat has not submitted the Utilization Certificates of the grant in aid as released to them upto financial year 2009-10 and therefore in view of the direction of Ministry of Finance, the proposals of the state has not been considered for approval.