

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Clinical trials are conducted by Indian companies as well as Multinational companies to test the safety and efficacy of new drugs.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Inadequate pharmacists with CGHS Ayurvedic dispensaries

995. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of pharmacists posted in CGHS Ayurvedic dispensaries is far below their sanctioned strength leading to huge burden of work on the existing staff;

(b) if so, the reasons for not providing sufficient number of pharmacists in the dispensaries;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to non-availability of pharmacists in adequate number, the work of Ayurvedic dispensaries is adversely affected; and

(d) by when and how the sanctioned strength of pharmacists will be provided to the Ayurvedic dispensaries?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) 7 posts of Ayurvedic pharmacist are lying vacant in CGHS, Delhi and NCR. Out of 34 sanctioned posts, 27 posts are filled up. Action has been initiated to fill up the vacant posts.

(c) No. The work is managed by CGHS with the help of existing manpower.

(d) Action has already been initiated to fill up the vacant posts of Ayurvedic pharmacists. However, no specific time frame can be given in this regard.

Whistle-blower Policy by FSSAI

996. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has formulated a whistle-blower policy for exposing food adulteration and food firms issuing misleading advertisements and making false nutritional claims;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the policy is likely to be implemented; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to involve all stake holders in the implementation of the policy in order to ensure its positive results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has drawn up a reward scheme for public for exposing food adulteration and food firms issuing misleading advertisements and making false nutritional claims.

(b) The scheme has been finalised within the scope of Section 95 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and uploaded on the website of FSSAI www.fssai.gov.in. This scheme envisages token reward of Rs. 500/- to the informants.

(c) and (d) The details of the Reward Scheme have already been uploaded on the website of FSSAI on 10th July, 2012, to ensure its wide publicity amongst the stakeholders.

State-of-the-art healthcare facilities

997. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the response time of the specialized hospitals, both in public and private sectors providing state-of-the-art latest diagnostic, hospitalization, surgical and other treatment facilities for meeting medical emergencies;

(b) whether some of the prestigious hospitals are equipped with dedicated air-ambulance in the shape of small aircrafts or helicopters apart from the usual ambulance facilities; and

(c) whether specialized medical facilities are also available for rural and semi-urban patients, at the district level, especially in the hilly terrain-States or in the North-Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Since 'Health' is a State subject, no such information is maintained centrally. As far as the three Central Government hospitals in Delhi namely, Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. Ram Manohar Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College and its Associated Hospitals are concerned, no study/survey has been done to ascertain response time. However, all the cases of medical emergency are attended to promptly.

Denial of medicines to cancer patients

†998. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.