

**MCI circular on prescribing generic drugs**

4408. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI ANIL DESAI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Medical Council of India (MCI) has issued a circular urging doctors to prescribe generic drugs by the medical practitioners;

(b) whether doctors are opposing the circular while the MCI is making no effort to regulate the manufacturing end of the supply chain; and

(c) if so, the action the Ministry is taking to address the concern expressed by doctors that it is not possible for the regulator with its present infrastructure to ensure 100 per cent quality control?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes. The Medical Council of India (MCI) has issued circulars to the Deans of all Medical Colleges, Directors of Post Graduate Institutes and Presidents of State Medical Councils to give wide publicity to ensure compliance by doctors practicing medicine of clause 1.5 of the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 which *inter alia* contain the provision that every physician should, as far as possible, prescribe drugs with generic names and he/she shall ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drugs.

(b) and (c) The MCI has stated that it is not aware of doctors opposing the circular. Further, MCI does not regulate manufacturing of drugs. The quality of drugs manufactured or imported is regulated under the provisions of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945 made thereunder by the Drug Control Departments of the State/UT Governments and the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) in the Central Government.

**Cut in NRHM funds for nonperforming States**

4409. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to cut 15 per cent of funds allocated to States under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), if the States fail to place doctors and health workers to districts with the worst health index;