the State Drug Control Departments. The inspectorate staff keep strict vigil and draw samples of drugs for test and analysis to monitor the quality of drugs moving in the country. The violations, if any, are dealt with by them in accordance with the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. A new scheme has been prepared by the Central Government for providing assistance for strengthening of State Drug Control Departments during the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

Regulation of medical education standard

249. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide a mechanism to regulate standard of medical education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether views of the State Governments and other stakeholders have been ascertained in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The Indian Medical Council (IMC) Act, 1956 already provides that the Medical Council of India (MCI) will prescribe the minimum standards of medical education required for granting medical qualification by universities or medical institutions in India. The Act also provides that the Council shall furnish draft regulations and all subsequent amendments to all State Governments before seeking approval from the Central Government.

Clinical trials in the country

†250. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal clinical trials are beings conducted on the people of our country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.