

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial measures being taken by Government for making available sufficient OPD Centres for the benefit of ailing patients?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e) In so far as three Central Government Hospitals viz. Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College and associated Hospitals are concerned, there is no shortage of OPD centres. There are sufficient computerized OPD counters functioning in these hospitals from 8 A.M. to 11 A.M. and patients are seen up to 1 P.M. There are also separate registration counters for Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) beneficiaries in Safdarjung Hospital and Dr. RML Hospital and adequate numbers of registration counters are in position in these hospitals to take care of registration of CGHS beneficiaries.

Sale of nimulid in the country

229. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nimulid is banned in many countries of the world;

(b) if so, the countries where it is banned;

(c) the reasons for banning the same in these countries; and

(d) the reasons for sale of Nimulid in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Marketing authorization of Nimesulide containing medicinal products were suspended in Finland and Spain in 2002 and in Ireland in 2007 because of serious side effects affecting the liver. Further, the drug was prohibited in Malaysia (2008), Singapore (2008), Vietnam (2008) and Argentina (2009). However, the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use of European Union recommended for restricted use of Nimesulide containing medicinal products and the treatment with Nimesulide limited to maximum 15 days.

(d) Safety issues of Nimesulide drug formulations were assessed in consultation with an Expert Committee. As per the recommendations made by the

Expert Committee, the Government prohibited the manufacture, sale and distribution of Nimesulide formulations for human use in children below 12 years of age through a Gazette Notification 82(E) dated 10.02.2011 as the use of drug is likely to involve certain risks to human beings and whereas safer alternatives to the drug are available. Further, it has been directed to all manufacturers of nimesulide containing formulations, on recommendations of the Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB), to incorporate a box warning on label as well as package insert and other promotional literature of nimesulide formulations that use of nimesulide should ordinarily be restricted to 10 days. If longer clinical use is warranted, liver function test should be assessed periodically.

Additional seats for Ayurveda Colleges

230. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

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

(a) whether the Central Council of Indian Medicines has denied additional seats in the Ayurveda colleges in the country including Vijayawada, Warangal and Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): (a) As per the provisions of section 13A of the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970, the Central Government grants or denies permission to increase seats in Ayurveda colleges after examining the recommendations and visitation report of the Central Council of Indian Medicine, the proposal of college and other relevant particulars. For admission in academic year 2012-13, the Central Government had received 17 applications from different Ayurvedic Colleges to increase seats and after careful examination of the applications, 05 incomplete applications were returned back to the applicants and 12 applications were sent to the CCIM. After careful examination of recommendations and reports of the CCIM in terms of approved norms, the Central Government had denied permission to 9 Ayurveda Colleges for increase in seats. The Ayurvedic colleges at Vijayawada, Warangal and Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh had not applied to increase seats for admission in academic year 2012-13.