

Development of diabetic shoes by AIIMS Doctors

‡265. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that doctors of AIIMS, Delhi have developed shoes for diabetic patients; and

(b) if so, by when it is targeted to be made available to the patients?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

SMS facility for accessing information on medicines

266. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to launch Short Message Service (SMS) facility by which patients can get information about affordable alternative to the medicine prescribed by the doctors;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the salient features of the facility;

(c) the time by which the facility is likely to be launched;

(d) whether consultation with doctors is necessary for the patients before popping the affordable alternative medicine under the said facility; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e) There is no such proposal with the Government.

Creation of separate central drug controller of Ayush

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

(a) whether Government plans to setup a separate Central Drug Controller

‡ Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of AYUSH to oversee and strengthen the regulatory regime of traditional Indian Medicines and Homoeopathic drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government for re-establishing the safety and efficacy of AYUSH drugs/medicines as well as to develop their standards on the basis of accepted scientific parameters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes, the Government plans to set up Central Drug Controller of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homeopathy (AYUSH) drugs. The proposal in this regard was sent to Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance. 13 posts comprising of one Drug Controller General (AYUSH), five Deputy/Assistant Drug Controllers and seven Drug Inspectors have been agreed to Allocation of Rs. 102.00 crore has been provided for this initiative in the Twelfth Plan Budget including Rs. 7.60 crore for the current financial year.

(c) The following steps have been taken to establish the safety and efficacy of AYUSH drugs/medicines and develop their standards-

(i) Under intramural and extramural research initiatives of the Central AYUSH Research Councils and Department of AYUSH research projects have been undertaken for safety and efficacy studies of AYUSH medicines.

(ii) Pharmacopoeial Commission of Indian Medicine has been set up to accelerate the work of developing pharmacopoeial standards of Ayurveda Siddha and Unani Drugs.

(iii) Quality certification scheme for ASU Drugs has been introduced in collaboration with the Quality Council of India.

(iv) Legal provisions have been made for display of shelf life or expiry date of various categories of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani drugs and for the use of preservatives, additives etc. in the manufacture of these drugs.

- (v) Good Clinical Practice guidelines for clinical trials and Essential Drug Lists of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homeopathy have been published.

Payment to SSUs by M/s Instrumentation Ltd.

268. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to refer to answer given to Unstarred Question 2443 in the Rajya Sabha on 19th March, 2013 and state:

(a) whether payment to Small Scale Units (SSUs) have since been released by M/s Instrumentation Limited, Kota;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would refer the matter to Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) against officers responsible for violating payment terms of Purchase Orders; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The company has since released full payment to 6 Small Scale Units *viz.* SETREL, Pyrotech, HP Valves, Wonder Poly, Sunil and Co. and Sunlit Industries Ltd. and part payment has been made to 3 Small Scale Units *viz.* M/s. Himachal Wire Industries (P) Ltd., M/s. MASIBUS and M/s. CHINO.

(b) Non-Payment is mainly because of acute shortage of working capital with the company.

(c) and (d) The company is presently in financial crisis and it is finding it difficult to make timely payment of even salary/wages and statutory dues of its employees. However, all out efforts are being made to mobilize sufficient funds so that the pending dues can be met. Since non-payment is on account of severe liquidity crunch, no disciplinary action is contemplated against any officers of the company.