

Illegal removal of wombs

†1397. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are complaints that expired injections and medicines are used rampantly in Government hospitals, if so the details thereof; and

(b) whether the trade of removal of wombs in private hospitals is going on rampantly, if so, the steps being taken to check it immediately and action to be taken against the doctors who indulge in such activities?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA) : (a) and (b) Since health is a State subject, no such information is maintained Centrally and it is the responsibility of the State Government to take steps in this regard. However, as far as Institutions/Hospitals such as All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh and three Central Government Hospitals in Delhi namely, Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Lady Hardinge Medical College and associated hospitals are concerned, there has been no report regarding use of expired injections and medicines.

Tracking of counterfeit dfrugs

1398. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been receiving complaints regarding supply of fake or counterfeit medicines to the patients if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for proper investigation in the matter and also to avoid such practices in the future;

(c) whether Government is considering to adopt any new technology to track counterfeit drugs in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when it will be implemented in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) Fake drugs or counterfeit drugs have not been defined under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules made thereunder. However, reports,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

largely unsubstantiated, continue to appear in media about the extent of spurious/ adulterated drugs from time to time.

(b) The Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 provides stringent penalties for manufacture of spurious and adulterated drugs. Certain offences have also been made cognizable and non-bailable. The inspectorate staff of Central Drugs Standard Control Organization also keeps a vigil and draws samples of drugs for test and analysis to monitor the quality of drugs in the country.

(c) and (d) A 'Track and Trace' software has been developed for authentication of drugs manufactured in India.

Diseases caused by air pollution

†1399. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prevalence of respiratory and other diseases is very high throughout the country due to air pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated number of people in the country who are suffering from these diseases after coming into contact with polluted air during each of the last three years and the current year and the number of deaths due to this, State/Union Territory-wise;

(d) the corrective measures taken/ proposed to be taken by Government to ensure adequate medical facilities to patients suffering from diseases being caused by air pollution; and

(e) the quantum of funds allocated and spent by Government for the purpose, State/Union Territory-wise during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA) : (a) to (c) While air pollution is known to be one of the aggravating factors for many respiratory ailments and cardiovascular disease, specific information on the number of cases and deaths due to air pollution is not available. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) had sponsored three epidemiological studies to assess the long term impact of air pollution on human health. The studies indicate several pulmonary and systemic changes, altered immunity and other health impairments associated with cumulative exposure to high level of particulate pollution that increases the risk of various diseases including respiratory and cardiovascular

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