

Acceptance of freebies by doctors

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

(a) whether it is a fact that many doctors accept freebies such as gifts, foreign and domestic trips from various pharmaceutical companies;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto;

(c) whether Government is considering to propose severe punishment for such errant doctors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) and (b) In order to regulate the conduct of doctors, the Medical Council of India (MCI), with the prior approval of the Central Government, has notified Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002.

MCI or the appropriate State Medical Councils have been empowered to take disciplinary action against a doctor for violation of the provisions of the aforesaid Regulations. As and when complaints are received against the violation of code of ethics for doctors, such complaints are referred by MCI to the concerned State Medical Councils where the doctors/medical practitioners are registered. The MCI is an Appellate Authority.

(c) and (d) Clause 6.8 of the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 has been amended *vide* notification dated 01.02.2016 aiming at regulating the conduct of medical doctors in relation to acceptance of gifts, travel facilities, hospitality, cash or monetary grants, medical research, affiliation and endorsement.

Generic drugs in rural areas

298. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/proposed by Government to promote the use of generic drugs in rural areas of the country and details thereof;

(b) the steps taken/proposed by Government to spread awareness about use of generic drugs in the country and details thereof;

(c) the number of Government hospitals in rural India as compared to total number of Government hospitals which use and provide generic drugs to patients; and