Promotion of AYUSH projects

324. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the AYUSH Ministry is trying to promote the AYUSH products on a larger scale for maximum benefit of consumers;

(b) what is the biggest challenge for the Ministry in promoting wider use of these products by the consumers;

(c) whether there have been cases where malpractices have been detected in manufacturing different medicines under AYUSH system of medicines; and

(d) if so, what actions/measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Ministry of AYUSH has implemented a number of schemes to promote the use of products and services of Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Homoeopathy for the benefit of healthcare of the people.

(b) The biggest challenge for the Ministry in promoting the wider use of AYUSH products is inadequate awareness and limited resources.

(c) and (d) The Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 have exclusive provisions for the regulation and quality control of Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathic medicines, which are enforced by the State Governments. It is legally mandatory for the manufacturers to adhere to the prescribed requirements for licensing of manufacturing units and medicines, Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and quality standards of drugs prescribed in the pharmacopoeia. Spurious, Adulterated and Misbranded medicines as well as the penal provisions for the defaulters are defined in the Act. Accordingly, the Licensing Authorities/Drugs Controllers pre-appointed by the State Governments are empowered to take necessary action against the malpractices and instances of contravention of the legal provisions. Central Government has the powers to frame and amend the regulatory provisions, prohibit the manufacturing of a particular medicine in public interest and give direction to the State Government for carrying into execution any specific provision of the Act, Rule or Order.