

through a system of licensing and inspection. Licenses for manufacture, sale and distribution of drugs are granted by the State Licensing Authorities (SLAs) appointed by respective State Governments. SLAs are legally empowered to take stringent action against violation of provisions of the Act and Rules.

There are no specific provisions under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules regarding regulation of sale of drugs through e-pharmacies. All matters relating to sale of drugs including through online will continue to be regulated in accordance with provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 as amended from time to time.

Government has not carried out any surveys on the numbers of e-pharmacies.

(c) The draft e-pharmacy rules have been framed under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 which has adequate provisions to safeguard against sale of spurious drugs.

Mortalities from cancer and obstructive lungs diseases

2195. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of chronic obstructive lung disease cases in India has increased from 28 million to 55 million from 1990 to 2016 and the death rate among these cases is twice as high in the less developed States; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the proportional contribution of cancers to the total health loss in India has doubled from 1990 to 2016, but the incidence of different types of cancers varies widely between the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): (a) Government of India has not conducted any study on chronic obstructive lung disease in the country. However, as per a study published in Lancet, December 2018 titled "The burden of chronic respiratory diseases and their heterogeneity across the States of India: the Global Burden of Disease Study 1990–2016", number of chronic obstructive lung disease (COPD) cases in India has increased from 28.1 million in 1990 to 55.3 million in 2016. According to the same study there was an increasing gradient in the crude and age-standardised COPD case-fatality rate from the high ETL (Epidemiological Transition Level) state group to the low ETL State group. ETL was defined as the ratio of Disability-Adjusted Life Year (DALY: A measure of burden of diseases) from communicable diseases to those from non-communicable diseases and injuries combined, with a low ratio denoting high ETL and *vice versa*.

(b) According to an Indian Council of Medical Research, Public Health Foundation

of India and The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation report titled "India: Health of the Nation's States-The India State-Level Disease Burden Initiative", DALY loss due to cancer from 1990 to 2016 has doubled, which means per centage contribution of cancers to the total health loss in India has doubled from 1990 to 2016. The incidence of different types of cancers varies widely between the States.

Financial aid for Malabar Cancer Centre, Kerala

2196. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sanctioning financial aid for Malabar Cancer Centre, Kerala, under financial assistance scheme for Tertiary Cancer Care Centre (TCCC), is being considered;

(b) if so, whether steps have been taken for the said financial assistance; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): (a) to (c) Under the Strengthening of Tertiary Care Cancer facilities scheme of National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS), there is no proposal from the State Government for sanctioning of Tertiary Care Cancer Centre (TCCC) at Malabar Cancer Centre, Kerala.

Under the scheme, one TCCC was envisaged to be set up in Kerala and the same has already been approved at Government Medical College, Kozhikode and 1st installment of central share has been released to the State Government for the purpose.

Superannuation age of AIIMS faculty

2197. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the governing body of the All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) had cleared the proposal to increase the retirement age of its entire faculty from 65 years to 68 years and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any proposal is pending with Government for approval; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) The Governing body of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in its 154th meeting held on