

with the objective to ensure availability of one medical college in every 3 Parliamentary Constituencies and one Government medical college in each State on Challenge mode.

There is at present no approved scheme to set up 75 more medical colleges.

### **Spurious drugs**

†1834. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that spurious drugs are being manufactured on a large scale in the country, if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard;

(b) whether Government has developed any monitoring system in the field of drugs, if so, the reasons for its failure;

(c) whether Government intends to take strong action against wholesale and retail dealers involved in the business of fake drugs, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government intends to amend the law to stop this illegal business, if so, the details thereof and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) No. There is no data to corroborate the fact that spurious drugs are being manufactured on a large scale in the country.

(b) to (d) The manufacture, sale and distribution of drugs in the country is regulated under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules, 1945 thereunder 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 the provisions of the Act and Rules.

Further, the Government is committed to ensuring that the quality, safety and efficacy of drugs are not compromised. With this in view, the Government has taken a series of measures including strengthening of legal provisions, conducting workshops and training programmes for manufacturers and regulatory officials and measures such as risk based inspections.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.