

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:204  
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003  
LIFE SAVING DRUGS  
A.P. JITHENDER REDDY;PRABODH PANDA

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether several life saving drugs have not been included in the list of Essential Medicines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps being taken for inclusion of these drugs in the list of Essential Medicines; and
- (d) the details of the drugs which have been included in the list?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (d) There is no separate list of life saving drugs. From the perspective of medical science, the drugs used in critical care or emergency care i.e. life threatening situations are generally construed as life saving drugs.

The National list of essential medicines consists of medicines meant for management of a wide variety of conditions as well as for life threatening - emergency situation and for critical care.

There are 83 such drugs in the list of essential medicines.