

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:932
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2005
RESEARCH IN PHARMA SECTOR
Sethi Shri Arjun Charan

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

- (a) the details of the discussions the Pharma scientists had at the Indian Science Congress held on January 5, 2005 at New Delhi;
- (b) whether most of the participating delegates have recommended that the India is quite capable of leading the research in Pharma sector;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the action taken/ proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (d): The Indian Science Congress held at Ahmedabad between 3rd - 7th January, 2005 discussed topics related to Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology. The discussions of pharma scientists in one of the plenary sessions was titled, 'Could India be a global pharmaceutical giant'. The discussions of eminent scientists from both public and private sectors emphasized the role and importance of R&D in the growth of pharmaceutical sector.

Most of the scientists attending the session felt that India with its enormous scientific knowledge base and growing industry could provide leadership in the pharmaceutical sector.

Efforts are on in the country to develop drugs by using synthetic, herbal and biotechnology modes and taking them through pre-clinical and clinical trials to enable these to reach the market at the earliest to benefit the suffering humanity.