

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6778
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2005
PROBLEMS FACED BY PENSIONERS OF CGHS SCHEME
Singh Shri Prabhunath

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that pensioners find it difficult to get certain medicines /injections on the prescriptions of Government Hospitals from CGHS dispensaries in Delhi ;
- (b) if so, whether they are asked to obtain permission from the Medical Store Depot , Gole Market New Delhi in this regard;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to simplify the procedure in this regard and to direct CGHS dispensaries to obtain the permission from the Medical Store Depot?

Answer

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

(a)to(d): Adequate quantity of medicines is available in CGHS dispensaries. However, any drug prescribed by the specialists and not available in the dispensary is made available to the beneficiary from the Authorised local Chemist on the basis of individual prescription. In the case of CGHS dispensaries which do not have any authorised local chemist attached to them, the CGHS beneficiaries (including pensioner beneficiaries) are permitted to purchase the medicines from the open market for which reimbursement is made by the Government.

In some cases where the drugs are costly or are to be imported, the drugs are directly procured by the CGHS Medical Store Depot, Gole Market, New Delhi. The list of such medicines that are to be directly procured by the CGHS(MSD) is updated from time to time by a Committee constituted for the purpose.

The CGHS Medical Store Depot directly procures medicines:-

- a) That are not available in India and requires being imported
- b) That are imported medicines marketed in India and generally not available with the CGHS authorised local chemists
- c) That is very costly.

The procedure adopted by the CGHS Medical Store Depot for procurement of the above medicines involves obtaining financial and administrative sanction from the Additional Director(HQ)/Director, CGHS. In the case of procurement of imported medicines, it also requires obtaining permission from the Drugs Controller of India and obtaining Customs Duty Exemption Certificate(CDEC) for importing the medicine. The above drugs are issued directly to the CGHS beneficiaries by the CGHS Medical Store Depot and therefore the CGHS dispensary where the beneficiary is registered is not involved in the process. All efforts are made to procure the drugs and supply it to the beneficiaries at the earliest.