

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:422

ANSWERED ON:22.02.2006

ALTERNATE TREATMENT FOR TREATMENT OF MALARIA

Appadurai Shri M.

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the WHO has asked Pharmaceutical Companies to end the marketing and sale of 'Single Drug' artemisinin malaria medicines to prevent malaria parasites from developing resistance to the drug;
- (b) if so, the details of the guidelines issued to Pharmaceutical Companies in India in this regard;
- (c) whether in the wake of this development, the Government has decided on an alternative treatment for prevention of malaria; and
- (d) if so, the details of the research going on in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, Sir. WHO has recently recommended use of Artesunate in combination with other anti malarials so as to prevent malaria parasites from developing resistance to the drug.
- (b) No such guidelines have been issued.
- (c) The National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme of the Government of India already recommends use of artesunate and sulpha pyremethamine combination as second line treatment for the treatment of drug resistant malaria cases. The Directorate of National Vector Borne Diseases Control Programme(NVBDCP) has also been using other combination therapies like Sulpha with Pyremethamine, Chloroquine with Primaquine, and proguanil with Chloquine for treatment and prevention of malaria.
- (d) No applicable.