

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3029  
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2004  
POPULARITY OF ISM  
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

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

- (a) whether foreigners are flocking to India for effective medical treatment as reported in the `Evening Dainik Anghad` dated July 10, 2004;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is contemplating to make Indian Systems of Medicine (ISM) more popular and attractive for foreigners; and
- (d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): A substantial number of foreigners are coming to India to avail of quality medical treatment at a cost much lower than that of other countries of the World, particularly in the field of cardiology, cardiac surgery, joint replacement, ophthalmology, pathology and Indian Systems of Medicines etc.

(c) & (d): The National Health Policy on Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy, 2002 inter-alia provides for creation of awareness about the strength of these systems within India and abroad. Accordingly, Government of India have introduced a Central Sector Scheme which provides for exchange of experts, incentive for participation of ISM drug manufacturers in fairs/exhibitions abroad, holding of international exhibitions and conference etc.