

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3067
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2004
PURCHASE FROM LOCAL CHEMISTS
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

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

- (a) whether the Government has stopped direct purchase from local chemists;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken to ensure that pending bills of Senior Citizens in this regard are settled early?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): No, Sir. 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 beneficiaries from the Authorised local chemist on the basis of individual prescriptions.

In the case of CGHS dispensaries which do not have any authorised local chemist attached to them, the CGHS beneficiaries are permitted to purchase the medicines from the open market for which reimbursement is made by the Govt.

(c): The reimbursement of bills of Senior Citizens(CGHS pensioner cardholders) who have been permitted to purchase drug items from open market has been further delegated by the Govt. to the respective Additional Directors/Joint Directors of CGHS for expediting the payment to the pensioners so that they are not inconvenienced.