

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2178

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2014

ILLEGIBLE PRESCRIPTION PRIVATE PRACTICE BY DOCTORS

Kamaraaj Dr. K.;Singh Shri Sushil Kumar

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

- (a) whether illegible prescription by doctors may lead to serious implications and even death in certain cases and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has enacted/ proposes to enact any law or direct the doctors/ medical practitioners to write their prescription in capital letters in clear and legible handwriting and avoid abbreviated names of medicines;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has also imposed/ proposes to impose ban on the doctors of Government hospitals to undertake private practices/run their own nursing homes and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year along with the action taken/ being taken by the Government against the erring doctors, State/UT-wise?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

- (a): Yes. Medical Council of India (MCI) and State Medical Councils, under the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002, are empowered to enquire into the professional conduct of any doctor.
- (b) & (c): Yes. The Central Government has approved to amend Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 providing therein that every physician should prescribe drugs with generic names in legible and in capital letters and he/she shall ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drugs.
- (d): For those doctors who are under the ambit of the Central Health Service Rules, 2014, private practice of any kind whatsoever including any consultation and laboratory practice is prohibited. They are entitled to non-practicing allowance at specified rates.
- (e): No such data State/UT-wise is maintained centrally.