

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 117  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2018**

**RESTRUCTURING OF NLEM**

**117. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to restructure the National List for Essential Medicines (NLEM) with the objective to make it more contemporary and in line with public health needs, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government will constitute a standing national committee on medicines; and
- (c) whether scientists, doctors and experts will be involved to review and revise the NLEM, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) to (c): Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, vide order dated 03.07.2018, has constituted Standing National Committee on Medicines (SNCM) under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Health Research & Director-General, Indian Council of Medical Research to review and revise the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM). The committee is comprised of doctors and experts and also has amongst its members the representatives of other Departments and State Governments. Amongst other things, the committee will suggest inclusion of Medical Devices, Medical Disposables, Medical Consumables and other products used for Health & Hygiene of general public in NLEM. A robust and dynamic NLEM will aid the Government's effort in addressing the healthcare needs of the people.