

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1713
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10th DECEMBER, 2024**

PRESCRIPTION OF GENERIC MEDICINES

1713. SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the regulation requiring registered medical practitioners (RMPs) to prescribe medicines by generic names is ignored in 99 per cent of cases, limiting access for marginalized communities;
- (b) if so, the details of actions taken, including the number of disciplinary proceedings and penalties against RMPs in the past five years;
- (c) the details of directions issued by Government, National Medical Commission, Medical Council of India and other authorities regarding generic prescriptions; and
- (d) the details of Government hospitals complying with the regulation to prescribe medicines by generic names?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE**

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (d): Clause 1.5 of the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 prescribes that every physician should prescribe drugs with generic names legibly and preferably in capital letters and he/she shall ensure that there is rational prescription and use of drug. Further, the erstwhile Medical Council of India(MCI) had issued Circulars dated 22.11.2012, 18.01.2013 and 21.04.2017 vide which all Registered Medical Practitioners have been directed to comply with the aforesaid provisions.

The National Medical Commission Act, 2019, empowers the appropriate State Medical Councils or the Ethics and Medical Registration Board (EMRB) of the National Medical Commission to take disciplinary action against a doctor for violation of the provision of the aforesaid Regulations. No data related to number of disciplinary proceedings and penalties against RMPs in the past five years is maintained centrally by the Ministry. Further, States have been advised to ensure prescription of generic drugs and conduct regular prescription audits in public health facilities.
