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

RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 103 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY, 2025

FIGHTING MISINFORMATION ON HEALTH

103. SHRI SAKET GOKHALE

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken or plans to take any concrete steps to address the issue of health and illness related misinformation being spread on social media; and
- (b) the steps taken by the Ministry to keep a check on doctors from spreading misinformation about health conditions and suggesting untested treatment methods to people with serious health conditions?

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

(a) and (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLYTO RAJYASABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 103 FOR 29th JULY, 2025

(a): The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) encourages the public to rely on official government websites and platforms such as MoHFW portal and MyGov for authentic information.

The Health Ministry uses digital platform partnerships, public outreach and fact checking initiatives to address the complex challenges of health and illness related misinformation.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, through its social media platform on X formerly known as Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, ShareChat, WhatsApp and Public App counter the health and illness related misinformation through various interventions. These interventions include fact-checking campaign, Myth vs Fact campaign to correct misconception, expert podcasts for public awareness, conducting high profile press releases and policy campaigns.

(b): In context of misinformation by doctors and suggesting untested treatment it may be stated that the National Medical Commission Act, 2019 empowers the Ethics & Medical Registration Board (EMRB) to regulate professional conduct and promote medical ethics amongst medical practitioners in accordance with the regulations. Clause 1.2.1 of the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002.

The Central Government enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 in order to prescribe minimum standards of healthcare facilities and services uniformly in the country. The Act is applicable to all types of clinical establishments in both Government (except owned, controlled and managed by the Armed Forces) and private health facilities. The responsibility of implementation of the provisions of the Act or the corresponding State Acts, as the case may be, lies with the States/UTs.

Further, the Indian Council of Medical Research, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has developed comprehensive Standard Treatment Workflow (STWs) for numerous clinical conditions for compliance by the Clinical Establishments registered under Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010.
