

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 493  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2016**

**UNFAIR PRACTICES TO PROMOTE MEDICINES**

**493. SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL:**

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

- (a) whether the Indian Drugs Manufacturers Association (IDMA) has laid down certain norms with regard to marketing practices for pharmaceutical companies in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the pharmaceutical companies are indulging in unfair practices to promote their medicines by sponsoring trips and offering gifts to doctors;
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to stop such unfair practices in the country;
- (d) whether the Government has proposed any new code of conduct for the marketing of drugs; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)**

- (a): The Indian Drugs Manufacturers Association (IDMA) is an association of private pharmaceutical manufacturers and the Government is not involved in the conduct of its affairs.
- (b): The Department of Pharmaceuticals has informed that there were some reports of Pharmaceutical Companies indulging in unfair practices to promote their medicines.
- (c) to (e): The Department of Pharmaceuticals announced a Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2015 to curb unfair practices.