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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5623 TO BE ANSWERED ON 7TH APRIL, 2017

BARCODING ON DRUGS

5623. SHRI RAJAN VICHARE:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to amend the Drug and Cosmetics Act to make barcoding mandatory for pharma products;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare had, with a view to establish trackability and traceability of drugs, issued a draft notification on 03.06.2015 to make barcoding compulsory on the Primary, Secondary and Tertiary packs to be marketed in the country and invited objections and suggestions from the stakeholders. The notification was, however, not finalized keeping in view the reservations of manufacturers regarding high cost of bar coding.