

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1274  
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 09, 2018/MAGHA 20, 1939 (SAKA)

**OPIUM CULTIVATION**

**1274. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

- (a) Whether the Government has any plans to protect the interests of the farmers cultivating legal and licensed opium following to the recent banning of codeine, morphine and other related derivatives for medicinal purposes;
- (b) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) Whether the Government plans to provide relief packages to the farmers cultivating legal and licensed opium in the States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, following to the recent restriction of usage of opium and other derivatives in medicinal drugs; and
- (d) If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
(SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA)**

- (a): On the basis of the recommendations of the Expert Committee Ministry of Health and Family Welfare prohibited the manufacture sale and distribution for human use of some Fixed Dose Combinations(FDCs) containing codeine vide notification dated 10.03.2016. Hon'ble High Court of Delhi vide its order dated 01.12.2016 quashed the said notification. Government filed SLP against the said order and on 15.12.2017 Supreme Court sent the issue of FDCs to Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) for examination. Thus presently there is no ban on any alkaloids including Codeine and Morphine produced from opium for medicinal purposes.
- (b): The question does not arise.
- (c): There is no such restriction of the opium and other derivatives in medicinal drugs.
- (d): Does not arise.

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