

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2438  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2018**

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND OMAN**

**2438. DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:  
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:  
DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:  
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR DIWAKER:  
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:  
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:  
SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:**

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

- (a) whether India and Oman agreed to pursue opportunities in the healthcare industry, including in pharmaceuticals and biotechnology sectors and resolved to encourage their private sectors to explore participation in these areas;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether India and Oman have made any agreement in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details and salient features thereof and area of cooperation finalised therefor; and
- (e) the manner and extent to which it will be beneficial for the country?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) to (d): A bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between India and Oman on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2018 for cooperation in the field of Health. The objectives of the MoU are for establishing comprehensive inter-ministerial and inter-institutional cooperation in the field of health with the aim of upgrading the quality and reach of human, material and infrastructural resources involved in healthcare, training and research in both countries for mutual benefit. The validity of the MoU is for a period of five (5) years from the date of signing, with provision of automatic extension for further similar periods. The main areas of cooperation covered under the MoU are as follows:

- (i) Training and research in various medical and health areas, particularly those related to communicable diseases;
- (ii) Environmental health;

- iii) Occupational health;
- (iv) Non communicable diseases;
- (v) Anti-microbial Resistance;
- (vi) International health Regulations;
- (vii) Emergency medicine and integrated surveillance of diseases;
- (viii) Epidemiology and clinical pharmacology;
- (ix) Hospital Management;
- (x) Diagnostics and laboratories;
- (xi) Regulation of Drugs and pharmaceutical products;
- (xii) Telemedicine;
- (xiii) Promotion of Medical Tourism;
- (xiv) Exchange of visits of experts and delegations in various Medical Specialities;
- (xv) Exchange of information and documents about public health, planning, financial systems and other issues of common interest in the field of Health;
- (xvi) Exchange of expertise and information in the case of disease outbreak;
- (xvii) Any other fields of cooperation as agreed upon by the Parties, falling within the scope of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

(e): The MoU will encourage joint initiatives and technology development in the health sector. To work further on the area of cooperation and to oversee the implementation of the MoU, joint meetings will be held at appropriate times as mutually decided upon by the two countries.