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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2873 TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD AUGUST, 2018

SINO-INDIAN AGREEMENT ON ANTICANCER DRUGS TARIFF

2873. DR. KULAMANI SAMAL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that India and China have entered into a deal to reduce tariff on Indian medicines including anticancer drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether as per the deal both the countries have been agreed to grant the licenses to Indian companies to sell cancer drugs in Indian market; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the criteria on which the licenses will be granted?

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

(a) to (d): India is engaged with China as one of the members of the Asia Pacific Trade Agreement or APTA (formerly the Bangkok Agreement). China acceded to this Agreement in the year 2000. The current membership of APTA consists of six countries namely Bangladesh, China, India, Lao PDR, Republic of Korea, and Sri Lanka.

The 4th Round of trade negotiations under this agreement were implemented by all members with effect from 1 July 2018. Under this agreement, margin of preference or a discount of applied tariff rates, has been exchanged by all members. India has made some offers to all members, including China, on chapter 30 of Harmonised code, i.e pharmaceutical products. However, concessions have not been given by India on anti-cancer drugs.