

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2979
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH DECEMBER, 2018**

BABY POWDER LAWSUIT

2979. SHRI JAYADEV GALLA:

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

(a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of an order passed by a US Court against Johnson and Johnson on the basis of reports that the use of company's talcum baby powder had caused cancer in women; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto in the context of India?

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

(a) & (b): There were media reports that St. Louis jury in USA in July this year has awarded nearly \$4.7 billion in total damages to 22 women and their families after they claimed that asbestos present in Johnson and Johnson talcum powder had contributed to their ovarian cancer.

In light of the above, Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has asked its zonal offices to investigate the matter and draw samples under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 for verifying the compliance to the standards.