

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†1447
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH FEBRUARY, 2023**

STEROIDS IN COSMETIC PRODUCTS

**†1447: DR. MANOJ RAJORIA:
SHRI BALAK NATH:
SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARASWATI:
SHRIMATI RANJEETA KOLI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the rampant misuse of steroids in a number of products including skin/face creams manufactured domestically or imported resulting in serious side effects;
- (b) if so, the reasons for absence of regulatory mechanisms for such products; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to impose ban on OTC sale of such cosmetic items so as to check their misuse?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (c): To regulate the usage and prevent self-abuse of steroids, which may contribute to health issues, following steps have been taken by the Government:

1. The Drugs Rules, 1945 were amended vide G.S.R. 277(E) dated 23.03.2018 for inclusion of 14 steroids under Schedule H of Drugs Rules, 1945.
2. Further, the Drugs Rules, 1945 were amended vide G.S.R 408(E) dated 26.04.2018 mentioning that the salts, esters, derivatives and preparations containing steroids or Hydroquinone for topical or external use shall also be covered under Schedule H.

Any drugs included in Schedule H are required to be sold by retail on the prescription of Registered Medical Practitioner (RMP).
