

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3167  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2019**

**ONLINE PHARMACIES**

**3167. DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY:  
SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to ban or regulate and legalise e-pharmacies in India and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has plans to extend the benefits of e-pharmacy portals in India with Ayushman Bharat Yojana, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) & (b): The Government has published draft rules vide G.S.R. 817 (E) dated 28th August, 2018 for inviting comments from public/stakeholders for amendment to the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 for incorporating provisions relating to regulation of sale and distribution of drugs through e-pharmacy.

The draft rules contain provisions for registration of e-pharmacy, periodic inspection of e-pharmacy, procedure for distribution or sale of drugs through e-pharmacy, prohibition of advertisement of drugs through e-pharmacy, complaint redressal mechanism, monitoring of e-pharmacy, etc.

(c) & (d): There is no such proposal.