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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4141 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH DECEMBER. 2019

CORRUPTION IN CDSCO

4141. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to curb the corruption in Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) in the light of the recent arrest of Deputy Drugs Controller;
- (b) whether his Ministry/CDSCO is planning to investigate all the drugs approved by this official since 2007 as bribes might have been exchanged for approvals and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the CDSCO has taken any action against a certain company as the said official was arrested for giving approval to a drug manufactured by this company and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for this inaction; and
- (e) whether CDSCO/his Ministry is planning to cancel the licence of this drug manufacturer as there is a high probability that the previous approvals might also have been acquired in exchange of bribes and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (e): A press statement has been issued by Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) for all stakeholders, public and officers stressing that there is a policy of zero tolerance towards corruption and its commitment to act stringently against any act of corruption.

Further, the officers and staff of CDSCO are regularly sensitized in this context. Security of the CDSCO Offices has been strengthened with installation of CCTV cameras at all strategic points to keep a watch over the visitors. Various measures have also been taken for improving transparency and accountability in the system. As part of E-Governance and to reduce human interface, CDSCO has launched a portal www.cdscoonline.gov.in exclusively for filing of applications for their processing and tracking.

Further, action in all such cases is taken as per existing rules, procedures and guidelines.