

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.986
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND NOVEMBER, 2019**

DRUG REGULATORY SYSTEM

986. SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE:

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

- (a) the details of the scheme approved by Union Government in 2015 for strengthening of drug regulatory system of India both under Central and State Governments;
- (b) the details of the funds allocated for the State of Assam under above scheme and their utilisation thereof;
- (c) the details of the funds allocated for Regional Drugs Testing Laboratory (RDTL), Guwahati under the above scheme and their utilisation thereof;
- (d) the permanent manpower status of RDTL, Guwahati under his Ministry;
- (e) whether the manpower is sufficient to cater to the need of the entire North Eastern Region, if so, the details thereof and if not, whether the Government has any plan to increase the permanent manpower of RDTL, Guwahati and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the manpower status of North East sub-zonal office of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) along with their performance during the last year?

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

(a): The Government had approved a proposal for strengthening the drug regulatory system in the country, both under the Central and State Governments at a total expenditure of Rs. 1750 crores. The Scheme had two components viz (i) Strengthening of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) at a cost of Rs.900 crores, and (ii) Strengthening of States' Drug Regulatory System at a cost of Rs.850 crore.

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The Scheme was to be implemented during the three financial years viz.2015-16, 2016-17 & 2017-18; however, the centrally sponsored scheme of strengthening the State Drug Regulatory System has been extended for another period of two years i.e. 2018-19 and 2019-20 with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(b): The State of Assam has been allocated an indicative amount of Rs.49 crore. The Government of Assam has not signed the MoU with the Government of India. Hence, no fund has been released.

(c): A sum of Rs. 18.14 crore has been released to Regional Drugs Testing Laboratory (RDTL), Guwahati for construction of new laboratory building under the above scheme. Central Public Works Department (CPWD), Guwahati has utilised Rs. 13.34 crore out of the said amount.

(d) & (e): A total of 17 posts have been sanctioned for RDTL, Guwahati. In order to cater to the increased workload, 41 contractual manpower has also been provided.

(f): Two Assistant Drugs Controllers and two Drug Inspectors have been provided to sub-zone Guwahati and their performance was found to be satisfactory during the last year. In addition, due to exigencies of work, regulatory staff from East Zone Kolkata is also deputed to sub-zone Guwahati on need basis.

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