

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

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**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.199**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY THE 3<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY, 2020**  
**MAGHA 14, 1941 (SAKA)**

**REDUCTION IN GST RATES**

**199. MS. RAMYA HARIDAS:  
MS. DIYA KUMARI:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any review of taxation of drugs and medicaments under the Goods and Services Tax(GST) regime and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has received any requests for reduction in GST on life saving drugs and medicaments and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any decision to reduce GST on such drugs and medicaments and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government is also contemplating to exempt marble and cement in the construction of houses from GST or to reduce its rate; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE**  
**(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

**(a):** The GST rates on drugs and medicaments have been reviewed by the GST Council time to time based on the requests and recommendations received in this regard.

**(b) & (c):** Certain requests have been received for reduction in GST rate on drugs and medicaments. These requests were placed before the GST Council and on the recommendations of GST Council GST rates were reduced from 12% to 5% on specified Ayurvedic, Unani, Siddha, Homeopathic or Bio-chemic medicaments. Further exemption from IGST on imports has been given to:

- (i) Medicines/drugs/vaccines supplied free of cost by United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), Red Cross or an International Organization subject to specified conditions.
- (ii) Lifesaving Medicines for personal use supplied free of cost by overseas supplier, subject to specified conditions.

**(d) & (e):** The GST Council has not made any such recommendation.

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