

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 694
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5TH February, 2021**

SHORTAGE OF STAFF IN CDSCO

694. SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B.:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that for about 20000 pharmaceutical manufacturers, the Central Drugs Standards Control Organization (CDSCO) has less than 300 staff to grant drug approvals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government had already agreed to place 1200 more regular staff and 1200 staff on contract basis to strengthen the capacity of CDSCO ; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the necessary steps taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(a) & (b): As on date, 492 regulatory posts are sanctioned for Central Drugs Standards Control Organization (CDSCO), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. Out of these, currently 395 posts are filled up. In addition to regulatory posts of CDSCO, the State/UT Drug Control authorities also have regulatory posts in their respective State/UT Drug Control Divisions to cater to the pharmaceutical manufacturers in their States/UTs.

(c) & (d): 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 crore. The Scheme had two components viz (i) Strengthening of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) at a cost of Rs.900 crore, and (ii) Strengthening of States' Drug Regulatory System at a cost of Rs.850 crore. This proposal inter-alia includes addition to the regular and contractual manpower strength of CDSCO and States.

The centrally sponsored scheme of Strengthening the States' Drug Regulatory System was implemented during the three financial years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18. Thereafter, the scheme was further extended upto March, 2021.