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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2019 TO BE ANSWERED ON 30TH JULY, 2021

SALE OF SPURIOUS COVID-19 MEDICINES

2019. SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has noted the widespread exchange of spurious medicines in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that many patients could not recover during second wave of COVID-19 due to sale and consumption of such spurious medicines;
- (c) whether the Government has prepared any report in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government has initiated any action against all those persons pedaling fake and spurious medicines for putting patients' lives at risk and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (d): The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has requested all States/UTs Licensing Authorities through several advisories to instruct their enforcement staff to keep strict vigil and to take stringent action against the offenders in cases related to medicines of suspected quality.

As per information available from various State Licensing Authorities, in cases of fake & spurious Covid management drugs, various enforcement actions like Drug seizure, arrests of accused persons / registration of FIR etc. have been carried out by the State Licensing Authorities.

Enforcement of the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and the Rules made thereunder primarily lies with the State Drug Controllers/State Licensing Authorities. The relevant Authorities have been directed to initiate and take strict action against all those persons found to be pedaling fake or spurious medicines.