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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3279 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05th AUGUST, 2022

UNETHICAL DEAL BY MANUFACTURER OF DOLO-650

3279: SHRI S. VENKATESAN:

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

- (a) whether there were IT raids in which manufacturer of Dolo-650 were found to be involved in unethical deals and swindled money;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has proposed to check unethical practices to protect ordinary people from such deals;
- (d) the number of similar deals came to notice of the Government during the last five years, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b): Department of Revenue has Informed that there is no expression 'raid' in the Income Tax Act, 1961. However, the Income Tax Department conducts investigations, including the Search & Seizure operations to bring to tax unaccounted income. Such actions are not limited to any particular sector, State/geography.
- (c) to (e): The Department of Pharmaceuticals informed that it has put in place a Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) for Pharmaceutical companies, which is in operation since 01.01.2015, to prevent unethical practices by the pharmaceutical companies. This is a voluntary code which governs the conduct of pharmaceutical companies in their marketing practices, duly covering the various aspects such as medical representatives, textual and audio-visual promotional materials, samples, gifts, etc. Further, the code establishes relationship with healthcare professionals, wherein the provisions related to travel facilities, hospitality and cash or monetary grants to physicians or their families have been elaborated. The code also details the mode of operation of the code, responsibilities of the Pharmaceutical Associations in constituting the Ethics Committee for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (ECPMP) for handling the complaints and Apex Ethics Committee for

Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (AECPMP) for review, procedure of lodging a complaint, procedure of handling of complaints by the Pharmaceutical Associations and various penalty provisions. The UCPMP code is adopted by the all the major associations of pharmaceutical companies.

Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 formed under Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 (102 of 1956), provides for conduct for doctors and professional association of doctors in their relationship with pharmaceutical and allied health sector industry. Under this, any complaint of professional misconduct of a medical practitioner or professional is to be addressed by the respective State Medical Councils.
