

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 782
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26th JULY, 2024**

ERADICATION OF TB

782: SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B

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

- (a) whether the country is experiencing a shortage of drugs essential for treating drug sensitive tuberculosis (DS-TB) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether an uninterrupted supply of quality assured anti-TB drugs is acknowledge as an essential component of its DOTS strategy and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the shortage of anti-TB drugs leads to a situation of treatment interruption and a very high risk of developing resistance in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has received representations in this regard from the activists working on eradication of TB in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to remove the shortage of anti TB drugs?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (e) Adequate availability and uninterrupted supply of anti-TB drugs are vital components of the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP). The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) conducts regular assessment to monitor stock levels across states /UTs. Release Orders / Transfers Orders are issued routinely from central level to the states and UTs to replenish the stock position of anti TB drugs. Additionally, States and UTs have been equipped with resources under NHM for local procurement of anti-tuberculosis drugs in limited quantities, to address any emergent needs promptly. Central TB Division of MoHFW receives representations from citizens informing about possible shortages and takes prompt action through release of central stock of drugs or re-allocation of drugs, inter-state / intra-state in consultation with State concerned.
