**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**
**MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**LOK SABHA**
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4741**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON 28th MARCH, 2025**

**"Fake Ayurvedic Medicines and Unrecognized Practitioners"**

4741. Shri Gurmeet Singh Meet Hayer:

Will the Minister of AYUSH be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that there is large-scale sale of fake Ayurvedic medicines and the presence of unrecognized Ayurvedic practitioners and medicine shops across the country and if so, the details thereof;
(b) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to monitor and regulate the manufacturing, distribution and sale of Ayurvedic medicines to ensure quality and safety;
(c) whether there is any mechanism to verify the credentials of Ayurvedic doctors and medicine shops and if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether the Government has any data or study on ill-effects of fake ayurvedic medicines and if so, the details thereof;
(e) whether the Government plans to introduce stricter licensing norms and penalties for unauthorized practitioners and sellers and if so, the details thereof; and
(f) the measures being taken by the Government to increase public awareness about the risks associated with fake Ayurvedic medicines and unqualified practitioners?

**ANSWER**
**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) No such information is available in this Ministry.

(b) The steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to monitor and regulate the manufacturing, distribution and sale of Ayurvedic medicines to ensure quality and safety are as follows:

1. The Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Drugs Rules, 1945 have exclusive regulatory provisions for Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani, and Homoeopathy drugs. Provisions relating to Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani Drugs are contained in Chapter IVA and Schedule- I of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and in Rules 151 to 169, Schedules E(I), T & TA of the

Drugs Rules, 1945. It is mandatory for the manufacturers to adhere to the prescribed requirements for licensing of manufacturing units & medicines including proof of safety & effectiveness, compliance with the Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) as per Schedule T of Drugs Rules, 1945 and quality standards of drugs given in the respective pharmacopoeia.

2. As on date, 34 State Drug Testing Laboratories and 106 Private Drug Testing laboratories are approved for quality testing of Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani drugs and raw materials.

(c) Credentials of Ayurvedic doctors can be verified through the State Indian System of Medicine Council.

(d) and (f) The Pharmacovigilance Program for Ayurvedic, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy (ASU & H) Drugs has been implemented under Central Sector Scheme Ayush Oushadhi Gunavatta Evam Uttpadan Samvardhan Yojana (AOGUSY), which work through a three-tier network of a National Pharmacovigilance Centre (NPvCC), Five Intermediary Pharmacovigilance Centers (IPvCs) and 99 Peripheral Pharmacovigilance Centers (PPvCs) established across the country. The program is regularly reporting Suspected Adverse Drug Reactions for ASU &H drugs. The scheme mainly focuses on augmenting quality of Ayush drugs. The Pharmacovigilance Program contributes towards developing awareness on safe use of Ayush drugs and informs about the risks associated with the use of fake medicines.

Ministry of Ayush has issued a public notice on 08.10.2024, informing the general public about the facts regarding ASU&H drugs/medicines and urging them to avoid patronizing misleading advertisements, which was published in 100 leading newspapers across India in Hindi, English, and several regional languages.

(e ) Ministry of Ayush vide gazette notification issued on 21.09.2020 under the provision of NCISM Act 2020 has established National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) to improve the quality of Ayurveda education. Specific penalties for the practitioners have been defined in the NCISM Act (2020), which is mentioned under the Section 34 of the Act.

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