

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3703

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 22nd December, 2015

Uniform Code for Pharma Companies

3703. SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that majority of pharma companies are in favour of tighter control by making the uniform code of pharmaceutical marketing practices mandatory;
- (b) whether it is also true that about 15- 20% of pharma companies are bringing a bad name to the entire pharma industry;
- (c) whether it is also true that according to India Drug Manufacturers Association, the said companies want the code to be voluntary and self regulatory; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a), (c) & (d): The Government had prepared a Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) which was to be adopted voluntarily by the Pharmaceutical companies for a period of six months with effect from 1st January, 2015, the same was extended upto 31st December, 2015. A review on the implementation of the UCPMP was held wherein it was found that majority of the companies favoured making the UCPMP mandatory.

(b): Some complaints have been received from various sources including NGO's wherein it has been mentioned that some companies are indulging in unethical practices in promoting their products.

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