GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1476

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY THE 4TH MARCH, 2016 **PHALGUNA 14, 1937 (SAKA)**

TAX ON MEDICINES

1476. DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering introduction of a new tax in the name of Biodiversity on Indian Ayurvedic Medicines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons behind introducing this new tax, when the GST is being introduced to simplify the taxation system;
- (c) whether a meeting has been held on this issue;
- (d) if so, whether it has been decided in the meeting to set up a Task Force to look into the issue:
- (e) the status of setting up of this Task Force; and
- (f) the time frame for setting up this Task Force and submitting its report?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA)

(a): No, Sir.

(b), (c), (d), (e) and (f): Does not arise.