

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 955
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08TH FEBRUARY, 2019**

EXPIRED MEDICINES

955. MOHAMMED FAIZAL:

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

- (a) the methodology/mechanism being followed by the Government to ensure that expired medicines and non-surgical consumable items are kept away from the Government and private hospitals; and
- (b) the details of monitoring done in this regard?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b): The manufacture, sale and distribution of drugs in the country is regulated under the provisions of Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules, 1945 thereunder through a system of licensing and inspection. Licenses for manufacture, sale and distribution of drugs are granted by the State Licensing Authorities (SLAs) appointed by respective State Governments.

Licensee is required to comply with all the conditions of licence. One of the conditions of licence states that no drug shall be sold or stocked by the licensee after the date of expiration of potency recorded on its container, label or wrapper, or in violation of any statement or direction recorded on such container, label or wrapper. Thus, stocking or sale of expired medicines is not allowed except in accordance with the conditions prescribed in the Rules.

SLAs are legally empowered to take stringent action against violation of provisions of the Act and Rules.

Central Government hospitals are following standard procedures to ensure that expired medicines and non-surgical consumable items are kept away.

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