

(a) whether Government has done a study on the popular programme 'Rajiv Gandhi Aarogya Sri 108' of Andhra Pradesh which is helping 25 lakh rural poor and procedures for 5.5 lakh patients in three years at cost of Rupees 1140 crore per year; and

(b) if so, whether it will be taken up as an all India programme for 'Health Security'?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes.

(b) Under National Rural Health Mission, funds are released to State/UT Government for the approved activities including emergency medical transport facilities. The model for implementation of the programme/particular activity is selected by respective State/UT Government depending upon their requirement and suitability.

Rising cases of tuberculosis

2702. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

(a) whether the World Health Organisation (WHO) in its recent report has revealed that a growing number of persons are being affected by tuberculosis in India in comparison to other nations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken for the treatment of patients affected by tuberculosis;

(d) whether the State Governments have been directed to provide free treatment to patients affected by tuberculosis; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) and (b) No. The estimated rate of TB incidence (*i.e.* the number of new TB cases occurring over a period of one year) is on the decline in India. According to WHO Global TB Report 2009, the TB incidence in India is currently 168 per one lakh population as compared to 184 per one lakh population in 2001. Among the 22 High TB Burden countries, India ranks 17th in terms of incidence. The highest incidence rate of 948 per one lakh population in the world is reported from South Africa.

(c) to (e) The revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) widely known as DOTS, is being implemented as a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the entire country. Under the programme, diagnosis and treatment facilities, including supply of anti TB drugs are provided free of cost to all TB patients through State Governments. More than 12700 microscopy centres have been established in the country. Treatment centres (DOTS centers) have been established near the residence of patients to the extent possible. All government hospitals, Community, Health Centres (CHCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Sub-centres are DOT Centres. In addition, NGOs Private Practitioners (PPs) involved under the RNTCP, Community, Volunteers, Anganwadi Workers, Women Self Groups etc. also function as DOT Providers/DOT Centres. Drugs are provided under direct observation and the patients are monitored so that they complete their treatment.

Heavy Industries in Kashmir

2703.PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no heavy industries in Kashmir region of Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) whether Government would consider to propose setting up some heavy industries there in foreseeable future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. Under the Department of Heavy Industry, there is one unit-HMT(Chinar Watch) Ltd. located at Srinagar in the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) At present there is no such proposal under the Department of Heavy Industry.

Utilization of BRGF by States

2704.SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the States have been lagging in utilizing the funds allocated under Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF);

(b) if so, the details of the funds released and utilized under BRGF during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10, State-wise; and

(c) what are the reasons for under-utilization of the fund by the States and the steps being taken to see that the BRGF created for addressing the issues of regional imbalances in 250 backward districts in the country is better utilized by the States?