

(c) The Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Bill,* 2007 was examined by the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health & Family Welfare which gave its recommendations in its 30th Report on Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Bill, 2007 on 21.10.2008.

Spending on healthcare sector

2690.SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India is among the countries with lowest health parameters in the World;
- (b) if so, the position of India;
- (c) whether Government spending on health sector is inadequate to improve the situation;
- (d) the details of percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) investment in the health sector since 1990;
- (e) whether Government considers increasing the share of investment in this sector; and
- (f) the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) According to Economic Survey 2009-10 brought out by Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, India fares poorly in most of the indicators in comparison with a number of developing countries like China and Sri Lanka. The table below gives data on select health parameters of India in comparison with various regions of the world:

Infant Mortality and total fertility Rate

| Country/World/ Region | Infant Mortality (Total per 1000 live births (2009)) | Total fertility Rate (2009) |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| India | 53 | 2.68 |
| World | 46 | 2.54 |
| More developed regions | 6 | 1.64 |
| Less developed Regions | 51 | 2.70 |
| Least developed countries | 80 | 4.29 |

Source: UNFPA, State of World Population 2009.

(c) and (d) Data on investment in health sector is not available in the published official statistics. However, share of public expenditure on health as percentage of GDP has generally shown an increasing trend since 1990, as can be seen from the enclosed Statement (*See below*).

(e) and (f) The Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) aims at raising public health spending to at least 2 percent of GDP. In this direction, the allocation for the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and a number of other programmes has also been enhanced substantially in the first four years of the Plan period.

Statement

Public expenditure on health as percentage share of GDP

| Sl.No. Year | | Health expenditure as percentage of GDP (Central & State Govt.) |
|-------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | 1990-91 | 1.28 |
| 2. | 1991-92 | Not Available |
| 3. | 1992-93 | Not Available |
| 4. | 1993-94 | Not Available |
| 5. | 1994-95 | Not Available |
| 6. | 1995-96 | 1.19 |
| 7. | 1996-97 | 1.16 |
| 8. | 1997-98 | 1.23 |
| 9. | 1998-99 | 1.09 |
| 10. | 1999-00 | 1.29 |
| 11. | 2000-01 | 1.33 |
| 12. | 2001-02 | 1.25 |
| 13. | 2002-03 | 1.29 |
| 14. | 2003-04 | 1.26 |
| 15. | 2004-05 | 1.16 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|--------------|------|
| 16. | 2005-06 | 1.23 |
| 17. | 2006-07 | 1.22 |
| 18. | 2007-08 | 1.23 |
| 19. | 2008-09 (RE) | 1.37 |
| 20. | 2009-10 (BE) | 1.45 |

Source: Compiled by Reserve Bank of India from Budget Document of Union and State Governments

Expansion of medical education in the country

2691. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the organic link between the Medical Council of India (MCI) and Government with regard to medical education and access of medical education to poorer sections of the society;

(b) to what extent has Government been able to encourage State Governments to set up medical colleges;

(c) whether it is a fact that the MCI creates un-helpful circumstances and impossible demands to State Governments from entering the medical education field; and

(d) what steps would Government take to have a time-bound plan to expand exponentially the medical education sector in the country to meet our health needs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) The Medical Council of India has been established as a statutory body under the provisions of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 to regulate the standards of medical education in the country. The Regulations are framed and notified by the Council after obtaining prior consent of the Central Government. Norms are prescribed to ensure minimum standards and periodic inspections are conducted by the Council.

(b) to (d) To facilitate setting up of more medical colleges, the Medical Council of India Regulations are reviewed from time to time and recent amendments made in the criteria of land requirement, teacher-student ratio, bed-strength and incentives given to doctors serving in the rural