

Each, District Surveillance Team consists of a District Surveillance officer, and epidemiologists, a Microbiologist/Pathologist, a Physician/Pediatrician and District Training officer. Technical and Infrastructural facilities are provided through upgradation of District Public Health Laboratories and establishment of District Data Centre with satellite connectivity in the officer of Chief District Health Officer.

Enquiry on non-supply of free medicines by Government hospitals

†3120. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN:

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the medicines provided in Government hospitals free of cost are not being distributed to needy people;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government. In Central Government Hospitals all the medicines as per Hospital formulary are provided free of cost to the patients attending the hospital.

Opening of medical colleges in tribal and backward States

†3121. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medical colleges in the country;

(b) whether it is being considered to raise the number of these colleges in future;

(c) whether these colleges would also be opened in the tribal, backward States; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the names of the States where they will be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) At present there are 260 medical colleges in the country.

(b) to (d) The Central Government is, permitting establishment of new medical colleges under the provisions of Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 and the Regulations made thereunder. Any person fulfilling the qualifying criteria prescribed in the MCI Regulations can apply to the Central Government for permission to open a medical college. The essentiality and feasibility of having a medical college at a particular place is decided by the concerned State/U.T. Governments. The Central Government has no scheme for establishment of colleges in various States. However, under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), it is proposed to set up one AIIMS-like institution each in the States of Bihar (Patna), Chhattisgarh (Raipur), Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal), Orissa (Bhubaneswar), Rajasthan (Jodhpur) and Uttaranchal (Rishikesh). These States were chosen as they under served in terms of medical infrastructure, high incidence of mortality and morbidity, need for super-speciality services etc. In addition, Central Government has approved the North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (NEIGRIHMS) project at Shillong which would be providing PG education in 35 speciality/ super-speciality disciplines.

Female foeticide in Chhattisgarh

3122. **SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are more than 350 Genetic Sonography centres in Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether Government have received reports that these centres are basically doing sex determination tests and foeticides are quite rampant in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Raipur district of Chhattisgarh; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken so far to close these centres and whether Government have done any survey to find out the activities of these centres in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.