

vigil on the quality of food items within their respective jurisdiction for ensuring safe and wholesome food for consumers.

With view to better implementation of food safety measures in the country, an attempt has been made by the Central Government to consolidate and integrate a number of food related laws administered by different authorities by bringing them under a common umbrella of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and bringing them under the supervision of a new single authority namely the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.

#### **Assessment of NRHM**

956. SHRI K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of villages covered under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), so far;
- (b) the extent of improvement in the health infrastructure achieved under the mission;
- (c) whether any assessment has been made on the performance of the scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) covers the 6,38,588 villages in the country.

(b) NRHM has played pivotal role for providing better health infrastructure across the country. More than 17,000 health facilities including District Hospital (DH), Community Health Centre (CHC), Primary Health centre (PHC) and Sub Centre (SC) have been constructed or improved to provide better service delivery.

(c) and (d) Yes. The performance of NRHM has been evaluated by; International Advisory Panel study; Kaveri Gill's Study for Planning Commission, Community Monitoring Report, Common Review Mission and Performance Audit of NRHM BY Comptroller and Auditor General of India. Besides this regular monitoring is also done by periodic reviews, Health Management Information System data and State visits.

#### **Lack of basic health facilities for children in Jharkhand**

†957. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether more than 50 per cent children below the age of 5 years in the country, especially in Jharkhand are not getting basic health facilities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to ensure basic health care facilities for children in the country, especially for Jharkhand; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.