

(e) and (f) To improve the primary health care facilities in rural areas, the government launched the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in the year 2005 with the objective to provide accessible, accountable and affordable health care services in the rural areas across the country. Augmentation of human resources and infrastructure are thrust areas under NRHM. Financial support is provided to the States under NRHM for engaging staff on contractual basis. Under NRHM, nearly, 8,624 MBBS Doctors, 2,460 Specialists, 7,692 AYUSH Doctors, 26,793 Staff Nurses, 46,660 ANMs and 3,143 AYUSH Paramedics have been engaged by States on contractual basis. Multi-skilling of doctors to overcome the shortage of Specialists, provision of incentives to serve in rural areas, improved accommodation arrangements, measures to set up more medical colleges, GNM Schools, ANM Schools to produce more doctors and paramedics are also measure taken to bridge the gap in human resources.

9,144 new Health Sub Centre buildings, up-gradation of 8,997 Sub Centre buildings, 1,009 new PHC buildings, up-gradation of 2,081 PHC buildings, 435 new CHC buildings and up-gradation of 1,255 CHC buildings, 57 new District Hospitals and up-gradation of 387 District Hospitals have been taken up under NRHM.

Reviewing of national immunization policy

1467. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the wake of recent deaths of children in some parts of Uttar Pradesh due to measles vaccination, the Central Government proposes to rope in an international laboratory to help investigate the reasons behind the deaths;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to review its National Immunization Policy in view of the recent deaths; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, it was decided to send samples of measles vaccine to international laboratories for testing and analysis.

(b) No. There is no proposal for review of the National Immunization Policy.

(c) Does not arise.