

- vi. States are supported to take up IEC activities to change the health seeking behavior of people.
- vii. 8.05 lakhs Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) have been engaged to bridge the gap between community and health facilities.
- viii. Assistance has also been provided to state for setting up Procurement Cell and for public health laboratories.
- ix. Financial monitoring of NRHM is done through regular concurrent and statutory audits. Findings of the audit are communicated to the State Governments for taking corrective action.

Establishment of branches of NICD in states

3634. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up branches of the National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) in various States in view of rise of mysterious diseases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Governments and Union Territories (UTs) have agreed to provide land and other infrastructure facilities for setting up of NICD; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) and (b) The Government of India has approved a proposal for strengthening and up-gradation of National Center for Diseases Control (NCDC) (erstwhile National Institute of Communicable Diseases) for effective response to emerging and re-emerging communicable diseases. Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP), an integral part of NCDC, supports epidemiological and lab-based surveillance of outbreak-prone diseases and rapid response thereto.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.