

Implementation Plan (PIP) which is considered and approved by GoI based on the recommendations of National Programme Coordination Committee. As per information received from Government of Maharashtra, 2356 ASHA Block facilitators have been engaged so far.

(e) and (f) Public Health, being a State subject, the matters regarding selection, training etc of ASHA coordinators/ASHA facilitators are done at the level of State Governments. As per information from Government of Maharashtra, no appointment orders of ASHA Block facilitators are pending to be issued.

#### **Mandatory re-registration of medical practitioners**

4255. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR :  
SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA :

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Ministry for mandatory re-registration of medical practitioners to enhance their professional skills;
- (b) by when Government will issued any directives in this regard; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has taken up this matter with State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NASI AZAD) : (a) to (c) The Ministry, after holding consultations with State Governments and other stakeholders, has introduced the National Commission for Human Resources for Health (NCHRH) Bill in the Rajya Sabha. NCHRH will be an overarching regulatory body for medical education and allied health sciences with the dual purpose of reforming the current regulatory framework and enhancing the supply of skilled manpower in the health sector. The NCHRH Bill also envisages updation of professional knowledge and skill of medical professionals by making it mandatory for them to attend seminars, conferences, workshops or any other programme of minimum standard for re-registration in a periodic manner.

#### **Proper implementation of NRHM**

4256. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :  
SHRI K.E. ISMAIL :

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

- (a) whether the Central Government is conducting National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in various States with a view to improve rural health;
- (b) if so, the details of the programmes under it, State-wise:

- (c) whether NRHM has any targeted beneficiaries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Ministry has received many complaints from a number of States that the programme could not be properly implemented due to bad infrastructures; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof with a list of works that had been undertaken for proper implementation of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY) : (a) and (b) Yes. Government launched National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in 2005 with a view to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the rural population, especially the vulnerable sections. The programmes covered under the Mission include Reproductive and Child Health Programmes, various Communicable Disease Control Programme, National Programme for Control of Blindness, Iodine Deficiency Diseases Control Programme and Integrated Disease Surveillance Project. All these programmes are implemented in all States/UTs.

(c) and (d) The NRHM is targeted primarily for the rural population of the country. Further, with a view to reduce maternal and child mortality, special focus has been given under NRHM to pregnant women and children from both rural and urban areas through various programmes/initiatives in Reproductive and Child Health Programmes which include Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK), Immunization Programmes, Family Planning Programmes etc.

(e) No such complaints received. In fact, NRHM also aims at health systems strengthening and provides funding for infrastructure and Human Resources among others.

(f) In view of the reply at (e) above, the question does not arise.

#### **Use of toxic preservatives in food items**

4257. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the use of highly toxic chemicals and preserving agents for preserving food items for long term;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the ill effects on human body by these materials have been studied;