

surrogate marker for efficiency of hospital infection control. There is no nation wide data on MRSA resistance in India.

The Government of India has developed a National Antibiotic Policy aimed to promote rational use of antibiotics.

Central procurement agency under NRHM

†1480. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has planned to set up a Central Procurement Agency to purchase drugs under National Rural Health Mission during the Twelfth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when this Agency will be finalized; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has set up a Central Procurement Agency (CPA) under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, in the name of Central Medical Services Society (CMSS). The CMSS has been registered on 22.03.2012. CPA is expected to start functioning in the ensuing financial year i.e. 2012-13. The Society shall function as an independent, professional and autonomous agency for procurement of quality health sector goods and services required by the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India in a transparent and fair manner and make goods available at convenient locations for the benefit of users by addressing efficiently the supply chain issues.

Gap in supply and demand of vaccines

†1481. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there exists a considerable gap between demand and supply in the expanding vaccine market in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has formulated any policy to bridge this gap; 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) There are no reports of any gap between the demand and supply in the vaccine market in the country.

(c) and (d) National Vaccine Policy has been formulated which gives broad framework for ensuring vaccine security.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.