(b) to (d) Public Health is a state subject. Financial support is provided to States under National Rural Health Mission [NRHM] to strengthen the health system including engagement of doctors and paramedics on contractual basis based on the requirement proposed by the States in annual Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs). Apart from the fact that the State/UT Governments are impressed upon from time to time to fill up the vacant posts at the earliest, rational and equitable deployment of human resources with highest priority being given to high focus districts and delivery points is an important conditionally in allocation of funds under NRHM. Non-compliance of this could lead to reduction of upto 7.5% of the total outlay of the State. The State Governments are also being supported with hard area allowances for staff that are serving in remote and hard to reach areas provided they ask for it in their states PIP. In addition, a road map on human resources has been suggested to the States as part of State PIPs approvals.

Free generic medicines

1799. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI:

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

- (a) whether Government has launched a scheme for providing free generic medicines in all Government hospitals in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the expenditure likely to be incurred with the distribution of free medicines; and
- (d) the details of medicines and the diseases that are likely to be covered under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The Government proposes to start an Initiative for free supply of Essential Medicines in Public Health facilities in the country aiming to provide affordable health care to the people by reducing out of pocket expenses of medicines. This initiative will promote rational use of medicines. Medicines would be procured in bulk in generic name, directly from the manufacturers supplied through an IT enabled supply chain management system to the public. Expenditure in the Initiative would be based on the allocation made by the Planning Commission for

the Twelfth Plan. There is an allocation of Rs. 100 crore for this Initiative in the 2012-13 budget.

TB cass in NER

1800. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the TB cases are reemerging and mortality increased in the States of North East Region (NER), particularly in Assam for last few years;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total number of cases detected and death reported. State-wise in NER, for last three years;
- (d) whether most of the public health centres, rural hospitals and even civil hospitals in Assam is not having adequate stock of medicine for TB under DOTs; and
 - (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) No.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) State-wise TB cases detected and deaths reported in NER, for the years 2008, 2009 and 2010 are given in Statement (See below).
 - (d) No.
 - (e) Does not arise.

Statement State-wise reported TB cases and deaths in NER

State	2008		2009		2010	
	Patients	Deaths	Patients	Deaths	Patients	Deaths
-	Registered	Reported	Registered	Reported	Registered	Reported
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Arunachal Pradesh	2450	84	2432	71	2360	56
Assam	38454	1458	39910	1718	39788	1626