

Upgradation of district hospitals

4415. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme to upgrade or provide facilities to district hospitals and other hospitals below district hospitals in the States; and

(b) if so, the details of financial assistance given to Maharashtra under the scheme during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Public Health is a State subject. Under National Rural Health Mission, financial support is provided to States/UTs for health system strengthening including for upgradation of health infrastructure including district hospitals and other hospitals below district hospitals in the States/UTs. Based on their felt needs and priorities, State/UT Governments incorporate their proposals to upgrade health infrastructure in their annual Programme Implementation Plans, which are appraised and approved by the Union Government.

(b) The details of financial assistance given to Maharashtra under the scheme during the last two years is as under:

(Rs in Crore)

*Statement showing approval for infrastructure Upgradation
upto District hospital level*

SPIP Approval	
2011-12	2012-13
203.44	156.10

Deficiencies in services of CGHS Thiruvananthapuram

4416. SHRI JOY ABRAHAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the existing CGHS dispensaries under CGHS Thiruvananthapuram are not at all sufficient to serve the patients under the said scheme; and

(b) if so, whether Government will consider empowering a few hospitals and diagnostic centres in the State as recognized hospitals under CGHS?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) At present, three dispensaries are working at Thiruvananthapuram under Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) and are adequate to cater to the healthcare needs of the beneficiaries registered with them. The beneficiaries may also avail the medical treatment at the Government hospitals. Besides, CGHS has also empanelled two private hospitals and one diagnostic centre at Thiruvananthapuram for providing the medical services to its beneficiaries.

In addition, 'Continuous Empanelment Scheme' has also been revived on 14th February, 2013 to empanel more number of eligible hospitals and diagnostic centres under CGHS. Powers have also been delegated to the field level committees headed by the Additional/Joint Director, CGHS of the city with two senior most Medical Officers for empanelment of private hospitals and diagnostic centres under CGHS.

Free affordable healthcare

4417. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government with regard to making life saving medicines available to people;

(b) whether it is one of putting them at the mercy of profit driven multinational companies, or one of making generic medicines available at a low price;

(c) whether more emphasis will be given to research in this field by domestic companies, particularly those in public sector; and

(d) whether priority will be given to making hospitals, free or affordable for ordinary people, available all over the country rather than promoting 'Star' hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The policy of the Government is to promote affordable generic drugs in the country. The Ministry has published a National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), 2011 with the primary objective to promote rational