

Diagnosis) and M.Ch(Neuro Surgery) Courses. The matter is still under consideration of the Council. The last date for grant of permission of Broad specialties is 31st March, 2013 and Super Specialties is 15th June, 2013 for the academic year 2013-14.

Availability of affordable medicines near hospitals

1627. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to ensure affordability and availability of all medicines to the patients in the vicinity of hospitals across the country;
- (b) whether Government has any plans to open affordable medical stores near the Central and State Government Hospitals;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be opened; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) Since 'Health' is a State subject, it is up to the State Government to take decision in this regard. However, as far as three Central Government Hospital in Delhi i.e. Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and LHMC & associated Hospitals are concerned, there is a proposal to open Jan Aushadhi Store. Safdarjung Hospital has identified a space for construction of a suitable 24x7 Chemist shop in the premises of the hospital.

In these three Central Government Hospitals, all medicines are provided free of cost to admitted patients. In OPD, medicines are dispensed free of cost as per hospital formulary.

Effective implementation of PNDT Act

1628. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the female child ratio has been declining in Delhi for the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of cases of violation of Pre-conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act or the PNDT Act has been registered but no conviction has been made during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures proposed to be taken to implement the Act in letter and spirit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.H. KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes. As per Census Reports of the Registrar General of India, the Child Sex Ratio (CSR) in Delhi has shown 2 point decline from 868 in 2001 to 866 in 2011. However, as per information provided by the Government of NCT of Delhi, the sex ratio at birth, under the Civil Registration System, indicates some improvements between 2001 to 2011.

(c) and (d) As per information provided by the Government of NCT of Delhi, a total number of 13 cases have been registered in the last three years, under the PC&PNDT Act and 47 cases are pending in various courts. The registration of one doctor has been suspended for a period of 3 months by the Medical Council and two doctors were awarded sentence of imprisonment.

(e) Measures undertaken by the Government of NCT of Delhi to implement the Act in letter and spirit include:

- Responsibilities of District Appropriate Authorities have been clearly defined and enforced.
- Targets of surprise inspections have been defined in each district and action regularly monitored. A standard monitoring and inspection format has been put in place to bring objectivity in the inspections.
- Medical audit of 'F' Form has been taken up as an important monitoring and surveillance activity in each district.
- Portability of ultrasound machines has been banned from August 2011 onwards.

- Dedicated legal assistance has been made available to the District Appropriate Authorities for case filing and follow-up action.
- State Monitoring and Inspection Committee has been constituted and 17 inspections have been carried out in the last six months and punitive action initiated against 17 defaulters.
- Training and capacity building for PNDT apparatus at district level have been undertaken to ensure appropriate handling and follow up action in each of PNDT violation.
- To build up public opinion against female foeticide and violation of PC&PNDT Act, special events such as Beti Shakti Abhiyan, celebration of Girl Child Day, involvement of school and college students through poster writing competition, organization/sensitization workshop for Priest, Pujaris, Maulavis, Imams and Granthis, display of publicity material through posters, audio-visual spots through media channels *etc.*, have been organized.
- Participation of civil society and NGOs dedicated to the cause of girl child has been included at district and State level structure.
- Monitoring of birth ratio in major private and government sector hospitals for gender bias is being undertaken by the Districts for surveillance on suspected hospitals and maternity homes.
- Field workers like ASHAs, ANMs and Anganwadi have been sensitized on the provisions of the PC&PNDT Act and their role in preventing family from resorting to sex determination.

NHRC notice on illegal drug trials

1629. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Human Rights, Commission (NHRC) has issued notice to the Ministry alleging that three Government hospitals in Delhi conducted illegal drug trials on nearly 3500 children during the past three years; and