

are being conducted in facilities, with an aim to reduce newborn and maternal mortality. Equipping the Public Health Facilities and training of service providers shall help bringing in quality improvements, thereby, help reducing the U5MR.

(b) Public health is a state subject. Under National Health Mission (NHM), support is provided to States/UTs for strengthening the public health systems including support for well-equipped public health centres (PHCs) manned by doctors and well trained staff present round the clock.

(c) States have been intimating their requirement for such support under National Health Mission/NRHM through their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) which are, appraised at the Ministry and approvals accorded keeping in mind the resource envelope available to the State. 8743 PHCs are now functioning 24×7 in the country.

Regulatory framework for medical education

1312. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of complaints have been received by Government regarding the present regulatory framework has failed to maintain the quality of medical education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government has any plans to put in place a credible regulatory and institutional mechanism to further develop standards in medical education so as to match global standards; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) In order to maintain the quality of regulatory framework in medical education, and also due to prevailing circumstances in the year 2010 involving the then President of Medical Council of India (MCI) in corruption charges, the Central Government amended the Indian Medical Council (IMC) Act, 1956 through the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Act, 2010 and superseded the MCI, for one year, with constitution of Board of Governors (BoG) to perform the function of the Council during the interregnum.

Subsequently, the term of the BoG was extended to one year at a time by

amending the Act in 2011 and 2012. The Ministry again extended the term of BoG for a period of 180-days *i.e.* upto 10th November, 2013 by way of IMC (Amendment) Ordinance, 2013 on 21st May, 2013.

The IMC (Amendment) Ordinance, 2013 promulgated on 21st May, 2013 ceased to operate on 16th September, 2013. Hence, the IMC (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 2013 was promulgated on 28th September, 2013 to validate the work already done by the BoG in the absence of MCI as per provisions of the earlier Ordinance.

The Medical Council of India (MCI) has been reconstituted on 06th November, 2013 as per provision contained in the IMC (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 2013.

Special comprehensive plan for handling nuclear emergency

1313. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the details of action taken by Ministry on representation received to prepare a Special Comprehensive Plan in consultation with State Governments, Department of Atomic Energy and National Disaster Management Authority to provide medical treatment in time to the people, in case of any major nuclear eventualities taking place, as currently medical facility is available to provide treatment to only small group of people in such a situation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): While health is a State subject, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has prepared a Road Map for Radiological/Nuclear Emergencies in consultation with National Disaster Management Authority and Department of Atomic Energy. The hospital infrastructure strengthening and training requirements to provide medical treatment during radiological/nuclear emergencies have been factored in Twelfth Five Year Plan under the programme 'Health Sector Disaster Preparedness and Response'.

Super-speciality health centres for rural areas

1314. SHRI K. C. TYAGI:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that in the maximum number of rural areas in the country adequate health facilities to the rural population are still not available;

(b) the extent to which the National Rural Health Mission has achieved its objectives;

(c) whether Government propose to setup super-speciality health centres in rural areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and