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**3. Human Resources**

- 57 Specialists, 466 MBBS doctors, 471 ISM doctors have been engaged on contract basis under NRHM.
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**Free testing facilities for diabetic patients**

2554. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that the number of diabetic patients is about 65 million in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government is also aware of the fact that people in rural areas and those belonging to BPL category are facing difficulties to get treatment and control the problem due to lack of testing facilities for diabetes;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government proposes to provide free testing facilities for diabetic Patients; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) According to report published by International Diabetes Federation (IDF) (the 6th edition of IDF Atlas published in November, 2013) the number of diabetic patients is about 65 million in the country. The data available from the Indian Council of Medical Research, India Diabetes (INDIAB) Study estimates the number to be 62.4 million approximately.

(b) to (e) Government of India launched National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) in July, 2010 with the aim to prevent and control these diseases thorough awareness generation, behaviour and life-style changes, early diagnosis of persons with high levels of risk factors. During the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the focus was on 100 districts in 21 States for prevention and control of Cancer, Cardiovascular Diseases, Diabetes and Stroke. In the Twelfth Five Year Plan, the programme has been expanded to all the States in the country. As on 31st January, 2014, a total number

of 5.52 crore persons have been screened for Diabetes out of which 6.11% are found suspected for Diabetes.

While Health is a State subject, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments for improving healthcare. Facilities including those for testing and treatment for Diabetes are provided in various Government Institutions. In addition, under NPCDCS, diagnosis and treatment facilities are provided through different levels of healthcare including NCD Clinics located in District Hospitals and Community Health Centres (CHCs).

#### **National Paramedical Institute of Excellence**

2555. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of the proposed National Paramedical Institute of Excellence;
- (b) whether it is a fact that 8 regional institutes are also proposed to meet the demand for human resources;
- (c) if so, whether there are any plans to set up a regional institute in Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e) There is no proposal for establishing National Paramedical Institute of Excellence. However, Central Government has decided to establish a National Institute of Paramedical Sciences at Delhi and eight Regional Institutes of Paramedical Sciences, including one at Rangapur in Hyderabad to promote qualitative services in Paramedical Sciences and augment supply of skilled paramedics.

#### **Free medicines scheme in PHCs**

†2556. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has started any scheme to provide essential and life

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.