

in the States which have not adopted the Act. This Act does not envisage provisions of free medical treatment.

(c) Health is a State subject. The States/UTs can only be persuaded to adopt the Act.

Reduction in tobacco usage

1029. SHRI K. C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has evaluated the performance and impact of the schemes and awareness programmes aimed at reducing tobacco consumption;

(b) whether Government has stakes in a number of cigarette manufacturing companies in the country, if so, the details thereof along with the rationale behind the same; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to frame a national policy to tackle the issue with the due consideration to balance public health?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA) : (a) The Government of India got an external evaluation done of the National Tobacco Control Programme through Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI). Recommendations of this evaluation have been suitably incorporated in the 12th Five Year Plan for National Tobacco Control Programme, to make the outcomes more effective.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Government of India has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee of Secretaries, under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary, to review and develop a comprehensive policy on tobacco and tobacco related issues.

PG medical seats in the country

1030. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medical colleges in the country;

(b) the total number of seats available for admission in a year;

(c) the number of seats available in post graduate diploma and degree courses after passing graduation in Medicine;

(d) whether such number of seats are adequate to meet the growing demand for post graduate education; and

(e) if not, the proposal of Government to overcome the bottleneck?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) Till the academic year 2014-15, there are 404 medical colleges in the country.

(b) and (c) The total number of undergraduate, post graduate diploma and post graduate seats in various colleges are 54348, 3801 and 19259.

(d) and (e) The Government is implementing the following three Centrally Sponsored Schemes for capacity building of medical education infrastructure in the country:

- (i) “Strengthening and up-gradation of State Government Medical Colleges for starting new Post Graduate (PG) disciplines and increasing PG seats”;
- (ii) “Establishment of New Medical Colleges attached with District/ Referral hospitals”; and
- (iii) “Up-gradation of existing State Government/Central Government medical colleges to increase MBBS seats in the country”.

Overcrowding at PGI Chandigarh

1031. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that PGI Chandigarh is overcrowded and facing difficulty to accommodate patients due to shortage of accommodation;

(b) if so, whether a Government hospital exists at Mohali having sufficient bed capacity for indoor patients; and

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to accommodate the patients of PGI to Government Hospital, Mohali to decrease the burden of PGI and for the benefit of the patients, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) PGI is providing services to patients as per its handling capacity.

(b) There is a 200 bedded Civil Hospital at Mohali under the Government of Punjab.