

(b) whether Government should allocate more funds to the Ministry to propagate natural healing methods and processes; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) For Ministry of AYUSH a total Budgetary provision of ₹ 1214 crore has been earmarked for the current financial year 2015-16. Out of the above ₹ 1008 crore are earmarked for Plan and ₹ 206 crore are earmarked for Non-Plan. Out of the Plan Budget ₹ 690 crore is earmarked for Central Sector Schemes and ₹ 318 crore for Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The above outlay is proposed to be distributed amongst various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Ministry. The amount will be spent in accordance with the guidelines stipulated in the scheme documents, General Financial Rules and keeping in view instructions issued by the Government of India, from time to time.

(b) Yes. More provision is likely to be needed in case of Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'National Ayush Mission'(NAM) under Promotion of AYUSH, which was approved and notified on 29.9.2014 as the States/UTs are gearing up to absorb the funds for development and promotion of AYUSH.

(c) Does not arise.

Abortion by AYUSH practitioners

908. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is facing severe opposition for its proposal to allow AYUSH practitioners (excluding Yoga and Naturopathy) to administer medical methods of abortion;

(b) if so, the reasons on the basis of which it is being opposed; and

(c) the response of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) and (b) Some Associations like Indian Medical Association (IMA) and FOGSI (Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Societies of India) have supported most of the proposed amendments in the Draft Bill on MTP Act, 1971 but raised objections to expand provider base to include AYUSH and other non-MBBS practitioners for conducting abortion services. According to

them MTP only is to be done by registered medical practitioners who are all trained qualified MBBS doctors, as defined in the current MTP Act, 1971.

(c) The Government is of the view that expanding the provider base by way of including AYUSH practitioners, homeopath and paramedical staff (excluding Yoga and Naturopathy) in the public sector to administer medical methods of abortion on pregnant women with strict conditionalities including requisite training and certification will enhance the access and availability of safe abortion services to women without compromising on quality of service.

Segregation of AYUSH/Allopathic doctors

909. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that AYUSH Doctors are treated as second rate by Allopathic Doctors and Para Medical Staff of Hospitals and PHCs as well as by patients; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures Government is taking or proposing including segregation of AYUSH Doctors from their Allopathic counterparts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No, however, it is observed that in some States there are disparity in the salary of AYUSH Doctors with that of their allopathic counterparts.

(b) The National policy on Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy (ISM and H) in its strategy highlighted that States would be encouraged to consolidate the ISM infrastructure and raise the salary and social/professional status of ISM practitioners to encourage inflow of talent and an enhanced work-culture. The aim would be to provide parity with the Central Government pattern which has established equivalence/relativities with the allopathic profession.

The States/UTs have been accordingly advised to look in to the matter and take necessary action.

Further, The Mainstreaming of AYUSH is one of the core strategies in National Rural Health Mission which seeks to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the rural population. Under National Health Mission (NHM)/National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), engagement of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani,