

<i>Written Answers to</i>	[12 May, 2015]			<i>Unstarred Questions</i>	243
1	2	3	4	5	
Chandigarh	2260	2206	64.5	63.4	
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1715	2177	42.5	54.2	
Daman and Diu	2084	1902	56.4	52.5	
Lakshadweep	2794	2469	76.9	73.9	
Puducherry	2185	2404	58.7	64.5	
All-India	2233	2206	60.7	60.3	

*including Telangana

Funding source for free drugs and diagnostic scheme

1836. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

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

(a) whether Government in 2012 had promised to provide free drugs in public health facilities and last year Government had announced to provide 348 essential medicines free;

(b) if so, the details of medicines which are under free category at present;

(c) whether Government has now thrown the burden of free drugs and diagnostic schemes on State Governments under National Health Mission, if so, the rationale therefor; and

(d) the manner in which the State Governments would bear the burden of free drug and diagnostic scheme without any Central assistance?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA) : (a) to (d) Public Health being a state subject, the government has been supporting and encouraging States under National Rural Health Mission/ National Health Mission to provide free essential drugs in public health facilities. The Government launched NHM- Free Drug Service Initiative and Free Diagnostic Service Initiative in 2013 under which substantial support is made available to States to provide essential drugs and diagnostics respectively, free of cost in public health facilities. An incentive of additional funds upto 5% of resource allocation of NRHM flexipool is provided to states that notify policy of provision of free generic essential medicines in public health

facilities. While the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) contains 348 items, the number of drugs in Essential Drug List (EDL) varies from State to State and the number of drugs provided free of cost also varies from State to State.

The Government is not withdrawing any central assistance for free drugs and diagnostics. In fact, Government has been consistently supporting and encouraging States under National Rural Health Mission/ National Health Mission to provide free essential drugs in public health facilities. As a result, amount of support and number of States taking support for Free essential drugs and diagnostics under NHM and number of States notifying free drugs policy has been increasing every year.

Support for drugs including Cash and Kind grant was ₹ 2522.60 crore in 2012-13, ₹ 3024.49 crore in 2013-14 and ₹ 3309.20 crore in 2014-15 while ₹ 311.52 Crore have been approved for diagnostics in 2014-15.

Further, support is being provided to set up systems of robust procurement, quality assurance, warehousing and establishing IT backed supply chain management system, setting up grievance redressal, prescription audit system and capacity building so that the states are able to operationalise free essential drugs and free essential diagnostics initiatives effectively.

Hurdles in organ transplantation procedure

1837. SHRI JOY ABRAHAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the fact that a large number of people in the country are dying prematurely due to heart, liver and kidney diseases and that many lives can be saved by timely transplantation of organs donated by others;

(b) whether the Ministry is also aware that organ transplantation in India faces red-tapism and social stigmas; and

(c) the steps the Ministry would take to make organ transplantation less costly and without unnecessary delay?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The Government is aware of the difficulties encountered in matters relating to organ transplantation and has, with a view to overcome these, taken a series of measures. The Government has enacted the Transplantation of Human Organs (Amendment) Act 2011 which has come into force on 10-01-2014 and also notified the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissue Rules 2014 on 27-03-2014, for promoting donation from deceased