

Referred surgery cases pending at AIIMS, Delhi

2687. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether large number of referred cases for various surgeries are pending with AIIMS, Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details of such pending cases under various departments;
- (c) what are the steps taken by Government to address such pending cases; and
- (d) whether lack of capacity of others AIIMS is the reason for such influx of referred cases for such surgery to AIIMS, Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) and (b) According to patient's condition, the various clinical departments make their own waiting list of patients needing surgeries in All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) New Delhi. This waiting period for elective and non-emergency procedures can be upto 3-6 months.

(c) and (d) The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi being the premier institute receives complicated cases from all over the country. Efforts are continually made to augment infrastructure in AIIMS so that services can be further scaled up. Various steps are being taken in this direction, including construction of New OPD Block, Surgical Block, Mother and Child Centre and National Cancer Institute.

Expanding scope of NRHM

†2688. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating any scheme for expansion of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) by removing the corruption prevailing therein, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the details of Government's plan to ensure availability of main basic services in the primary health centres/district hospitals and the availability of life-saving drugs under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) There is no such proposal with the Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Public Health being a State subject, the primary responsibility of ensuring availability of healthcare services in the primary health centres/district hospitals is that of the respective State/UT Governments. Under the National Health Mission (NHM), support is provided to the States/UTs for strengthening their healthcare delivery system including for health human resource on contractual basis and drugs to facilitate States/UTs to provide accessible, affordable and quality healthcare services to all those who access public health facilities, based on the requirement posed by the States/UTs in their Programme Implementation Plans. The Government has developed and released Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) for PHCs, CHCs and district hospitals so that all facilities provide certain essential services for that level. The NHM funds can be used to strengthen facilities to IPHS standards. An incentive of upto 5% additional funding under the NHM is provided to those states that introduce free generic/essential drugs. The Government has also developed and issued operational guidelines for free drugs service Initiative to provide guidance to the States.

Non-accredited food testing laboratories

2689. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many food testing laboratories in the country are running without National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) accreditation and FSSAI notification;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government for accreditation and notification of such laboratories?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) and (b) Presently, food samples are being tested in 166 food testing laboratories as per following details:

- (i) 72 State/Public food laboratories of State/ Union Territory Governments (out of these 72 labs, 6 State labs are also NABL accredited);
- (ii) 12 Referral Laboratories notified by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for referral testing; and
- (iii) 82 National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) accredited private laboratories notified by FSSAI.