

The major activities of the NPHCE are:-

- (i) Setting up of Geriatric department in identified Regional Geriatric Centres (RGCs) with OPD care services and 30 bedded Geriatric ward for providing indoor services. RGCs will also undertake PG Courses in Geriatric for developing Human Resource.
- (ii) Setting up of 10 bedded Geriatric units at all District Hospitals that will provide indoor services for elderly during hospitalisation.
- (iii) Establishment of Rehabilitation unit at all Community Health Centres (CHCs) and Geriatric clinic twice/week.
- (iv) Setting up weekly Geriatric clinic by trained medical Officer at Primary Health Centres (PHCs).

Apart from this, Government of India has launched a Senior Citizen Health Insurance scheme with effect from 01.04.2016, as a top up scheme of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojna (RSBY). The scheme will provide health coverage to senior citizen who are aged 60 years and above belonging to BPL category. Under this scheme, the health coverage is for ₹ 30,000/- per annum per senior citizen for treatment packages, over and above RSBY entitlement. The scheme would be cashless and run on the RSBY platform as an add-on cover. The add on cover of ₹ 30,000/- per senior citizen will be for treatment of senior citizen only. Senior citizen are also eligible for cover under the primary RSBY on family floater basis of ₹ 30,000/-.

It is further added that Public Health is a State subject Under the National Health Mission, support is provided to States/UTs for provision of drugs free of cost to all those who access public health facilities including the elderly population.

#### **New FSSAI standards for alcoholic beverages**

1066. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the FSSAI plans to set up standards for alcoholic beverages including beer and whisky, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the time by when the standards are likely to be introduced and implemented?

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

(b) The draft standards for Alcoholic Beverages were approved by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India in its meeting held on 4.9.2015 and have been notified to

the World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade and WTO Sanitary and Photo Sanitary members countries on 29.10.2016 and 01.12.2015, respectively. These will be finalized after examination of the comments and suggestions received from the stakeholders.

### **Rampant performing of caesarean surgery**

†1067. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the caesarean surgery is being done rampantly in different parts of the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government is considering to take any steps to prevent it; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and by when the steps will be taken in this regard and, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) World Health Organisation (WHO) in its new statement released in April, 2015 has said that at population level, Caesarean section rates higher than 10% are not associated with reductions in maternal and newborn mortality rates.

As per the World Health Statistics 2015 report released by WHO, the percentage of births by caesarean section between 2007-2014 was 8% for India.

(b) and (c) World Health Organisation (WHO) in its new statement released in April, 2015 has said that every effort should be made to provide Caesarean sections (CS) to women requiring C section based on clinical diagnosis, rather than striving to achieve a specific CS rate. At population level, Caesarean section rates higher than 10% are not associated with reductions in maternal and newborn mortality rates. Government of India (GoI) has already written to all States and UTs sharing the latest WHO statement. In addition, States have been informed to conduct periodic prescription audit in the private health facilities under the Clinical Establishment Act. They have also been informed that prescription audits can be extended to public health facilities.

A communication has also gone to Federation of Obstetrical and Gynecological Societies of India (FOGSI) which is the largest profession body of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in India for sharing the WHO guidance note to all their State chapters and the Obstetricians and Gynecologists registered under them.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.