

**Relaxing norms for setting up CGHS dispensaries**

†1778. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the norms laid down for setting up CGHS dispensaries in the States;
- (b) whether any relaxation in norms would be granted in future by Government towards expanding the network of Central Government Health Services (CGHS);
- (c) if so, by when the relaxation would be granted; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) The criteria fixed for setting up a Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) dispensary in a particular area are as under:-

(i) In an existing CGHS city:- For opening of a new Allopathic CGHS dispensary in an existing CGHS city, there has to be a minimum of 2000 Card holders (serving employees of Central Government and Central Civil pensioners);

(ii) Extension of CGHS to a new City:- For extension of CGHS to a new city, there has to be a minimum of 6,000 Card holders.

(b) to (d) At present, there is no such proposal.

As the resources under CGHS, are fully committed, it is not possible at present to extend CGHS network to areas that are presently not covered even with the existing criteria.

**Improving health services in rural areas**

1779. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in most of the families in which farmers committed suicides, the largest component of family debt was cost of healthcare; and

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken by Government to improve quality of health services in rural areas, especially the ones facing severe drought conditions?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) and (b) Public health is a State subject. As per the information received from Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, no such information is maintained by them. However, to reduce out of pocket expenditure on health care, under National Health Mission (NHM) support is provided to States/UTs to provide affordable, accessible and quality health care to all the citizens particularly the poor and vulnerable population. Support is also being provided for free ambulance services, free services through Mobile Medical Units, NHM Free Drugs Service Initiative, the NHM Free Diagnostic Service Initiative besides host of free services under programmes such as Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK), Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), Universal Immunisation Programme, Family Planning Programme and services under various Disease Control Programmes such as National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme, Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme, National Leprosy Eradication Programme, National AIDS Control Programme etc.

Under Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), GoI provides supports to the States/UTs to offer health insurance cover for hospital care upto ₹ 30,000/- to Below Poverty Line (BPL) and 11 other categories of unorganised worker families.

#### **Universal healthcare**

1780. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide Universal healthcare in every State to supplement the efforts of State Government, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has drawn up any action plan in that regard after reviewing the existing Central and Centrally sponsored schemes *vis-a-vis* the prevailing healthcare scenario in every State;

(c) if so, the details of the proposed action plan; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure effective implementations of this plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) Public health is a State