

**Supply chain and logistic management for immunisation coverage**

984. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether lack of quality supply chain and logistics management system pose a major challenge for Government as well as public health agencies working to expand the immunisation coverage in the country;

(b) what are the reasons which affect the quality supply chain and logistics management systems; and

(c) whether Government has taken steps to improve the quality supply chain and logistics management system, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) The immunization supply chain and logistics management in the country meets global standards, and is not a challenge for the Government or other public health agencies in expansion of immunization coverage in the country.

(b) and (c) The quality of cold chain and logistics management system is monitored by ensuring overall sickness rate of cold chain equipment in the country is below 2% at any point of time. Sickness rate denotes the functionality of cold chain equipment.

The quality of the cold chain equipments are ensured through regular maintenance by refrigerator mechanics who carries out repair and periodic maintenance of these equipments. Further the ageing equipment is replaced from time to time apart from expanding the cold chain system in the country.

Cold chain equipment is provided with temperature monitoring devices and storage temperature is monitored and recorded daily.

At present, vaccine stock is also monitored through online software known as an electronic vaccine intelligence network in few States.

**NEET exemption for A.P. and Telangana**

985. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh has special provisions under Article 370 D of the Constitution and the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have requested to exempt them from National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET);