

Financial burden of MBBS education

†781. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that students have to bear more financial burden for the study of MBBS course from this year, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether experts are expressing apprehensions that the children belonging to Economically Weaker Sections will be deprived of getting medical education due to more financial burden in medical education; and

(c) whether any step is being taken for ensuring uniform fees and other financial costs regarding medical studies across all States of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) to (c) Many States had opted for combined counselling for admission to MBBS course this year, including for Private Medical Colleges/Deemed Universities. In case of Government medical colleges, the respective State Governments are responsible for fixation of fees. However, in the case of private unaided medical colleges, the fee structure is decided by the Committee set up by the respective State Government under the Chairmanship of a retired High Court Judge in pursuance of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. It is for the Committee to decide whether the fee hike proposed by an Institute is justified and the fee fixed by the Committee is binding on the Institute.

HIV/AIDS Bill

782. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Human Immuno deficiency Virus and Acquired Immuno deficiency Syndrome (Prevention and Control) Bill, which was tabled in Rajya Sabha on 11 February, 2014;

(b) what is Government's planning to bring the Bill to the Parliament for its passing; and

(c) whether the Bill provides for free and complete treatment for people living with HIV in our country?

† 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) The Government has already given notice for consideration and passing of this Bill during the current session

(c) The Bill provides free and complete treatment of People Living with HIV in our country, as far as possible.

Central legislation for regulating employment of nurses in private sector

783. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the bonded employment of the nurses and para medical staff by private hospitals in the country;

(b) whether Government has conducted any research on this issue;

(c) whether Government will bring a central legislation to regulate the employment of nurses and para medical staff in the private hospitals and ensure decent pay and working conditions to them; and

(d) whether Government will consult with the State Governments on the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) and (b) Health being a State subject, the matter pertaining to improving and regulating the service conditions of the nurses working in the private hospitals in the country comes under the purview of the State Governments in which the private hospitals are located. All the State Governments have been requested, from time to time, for improvement of service conditions of nurses including those working in the private sector.

(c) and (d) In compliance of Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgement dated 29th January, 2016 in WP(C) No. 527/2011, the Committee constituted by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare *vide* its order No. Z. 29011/15/2013-N (Vol. II) dated 20th September, 2016, to look into working conditions of private nurses, had already submitted its recommendation which have been sent to all State/UTs for compliance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgement.

Funds for establishing PHCs

784. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to release funds for establishment of Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in the States;