

**Strengthening of Primary Health Centres (PHCs)**

4424. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the functioning of PHCs is far from satisfactory due to total lack of management and monitoring system;
- (b) what initiatives Government has taken to convince the State Governments to tone up the system to ensure that doctors remain available during duty hours, basic diagnostic tests carried out and medicines provided to the patients; and
- (c) what nature of support Government may provide to strengthen PHCs under the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) Public health and hospitals being a State subject, the performance of Primary Health Centres (PHCs) is to be monitored by the State Governments. However, various public health facilities, including PHCs are regularly monitored and evaluated through Health Management Information System (HMIS). Further, Common Review Missions (CRMs) also undertake a review of National Health Mission (NHM) annually, that *inter-alia* includes review of functioning of PHCs.

(b) To encourage States to tone up the public health system, the Government is providing incentives to States based on functionality achieved by various public health facilities including District Hospitals, Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres etc. and grading of the facilities based on indicators including availability of health Human Resource (HR), basic diagnostics, medicines for the patients etc.

(c) Public health and hospitals is a State subject. However, under NHM, technical and financial support is provided to States/UTs to strengthen their health facilities, including PHCs, as per Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS). This includes support for engagement of health HR, drugs and equipment, infrastructure, diagnostics, MIS systems etc. This support is provided based on the requirement proposed by the States/UTs in their Programme Implementation Plans.

**Adopting healthy lifestyle and food habits**

4425. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Health Ministry is concerned with ensuring supply of good quality food items and taking care of people only when they fall ill; and

(b) the activities taken up by Government towards adopting good healthy lifestyle and food habits to keep diseases at bay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) and (b) The Ministry is conscious of the fact that food and nutrition play a vital role in ensuring good health and accordingly, a number of steps have been initiated to achieve the optimal health outcomes. Besides, setting up large number of standards and their enforcement, emphasis has been given to Good Hygiene and Sanitary Practices in all sectors of food industry. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has launched various initiatives such as Safe and Nutritious Food at School, Home, Workplace, Street Food, Restaurants, Railways, Places of Worship, etc. aimed at promoting safe food and good eating habits at these places. Further, the stakeholders across the country, including consumers, are educated about various aspects of food safety and hygiene through communication platforms such as print and outdoor media campaigns, digital and social media, documentary films, education booklets, stalls at Fairs/Melas/Events, Mass Awareness Campaigns, etc. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is also implementing other programmes which focus *inter alia* on including increased intake of healthy foods, physical activity, avoidance of tobacco and alcohol, stress management, etc.

#### **Financial impact of 7th CPC on medical institutes**

4426. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether medical institutes are finding difficulty to comply with Governments circular to generate 30 per cent of additional financial impact incurred on implementing 7th Central Pay Commission (CPC);

(b) whether most of the medical institutes have said that it will not be possible to generate the 30 per cent of additional financial impact without burdening patients and for them Government hospitals are the last hope especially for the poorer section of our society;

(c) whether most institutions have now written to Government explaining the difficulty; and