

- (ii) To generate evidence on mechanisms of resistance in different pathogenic groups;
- (iii) To guide antimicrobial policies for both treatment and prophylaxis; and
- (iv) To direct hospital infection control efforts that facilitates prevention of the spread of resistant organisms.

Making medical education accessible to all

2192. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has noticed that the graduate and post-graduate medical courses have become extremely expensive and are not within the reach of poor and middle class people; and

(b) if so, whether Government has any plan to make medical education accessible to all?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) and (b) 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 a Committee set up by the respective State Governments 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.

The following three Centrally Sponsored Schemes are being run by Central Government to make medical education accessible to all:—

- (i) Strengthening/upgradation of State Government Medical Colleges for starting new PG courses/Increase of PG seats with fund sharing between the Central and State Government.
- (ii) Establishment of New Medical Colleges by upgrading district/referral hospitals preferably in underserved districts of the country with fund sharing between the Central Government and States.
- (iii) Strengthening/ upgradation of existing State Government/Central Government Medical Colleges to increase MBBS seats with fund sharing between the Central Government and States.

With the passage of Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Act, 2016, a uniform entrance examination for admission to Under Graduate and Post Graduate medical courses in the country viz. National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) has been introduced from the Academic Year 2016-17. It would help curb malpractices in medical admissions especially in private medical colleges, will lead to greater transparency and ensure better standards of Medical Education.

Further, Medical Council of India with the prior approval of the Central Government has notified amendment in Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 1997 and Post Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2000 for prescribing mandatory combined counseling for admission to all UG and PG medical courses.

Data on child healthcare indicators

2193. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest data on infant mortality rate in the country, category-wise, e.g.- Rural and Urban, SC, ST and Others, for each State;

(b) the latest data on neonatal mortality rate in the country, category-wise, e.g.- Rural and Urban, SC, ST and Others, for each State;

(c) the latest data on under five mortality rate in the country, category-wise, e.g.- Rural and Urban, SC, ST and Others, for each State; and

(d) the schemes/programmes/funds launched/released to check high child mortality rate during the last three years and the current year, scheme and State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) to (c) As per Sample Registration System (SRS) Report of Registrar General of India (RGI) for the year of 2015, Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) is 37/1,000 live births, Neo-natal Mortality Rate (NMR) is 25/1,000 live births and Under five Mortality Rate (U5MR) is 43/1,000 live births at national level.

The State-wise data with Rural and Urban differential for IMR, NMR and U5MR is given in Statement-I, II and III, respectively (*See below*).

Disaggregated data on SC, ST and others with respect to IMR, NMR and U5MR is not available as per SRS, 2015 report released by RGI.

(d) The Government of India is implementing the following interventions under the National Health Mission (NHM) all across the country to reduce child mortality rate in country:—