

(b) The year wise number of measles cases reported in last three years [source: Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI)] is as under:-

2014: 20,227 cases

2015: 25,561 cases

2016: 21,697 cases

(c) The number of children vaccinated against measles in last three years as per the Health Management Information System (HMIS) is as under:-

2014-15: Measles 1st dose- 2.26 crore

Measles 2nd dose-1.71 crore

2015-16: Measles 1st dose-2.31 crore

Measles 2nd dose-1.95 crore

2016-17: Measles 1st dose-2.31 crore -

Measles 2nd dose- 2.08 crore

#### **Authorised person to sign diagnostic reports**

1907. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Medical Council of India has directed that only persons holding an MBBS degree and registered with it or with the State Medical Councils can now sign diagnostic reports;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the move is aimed at regulating quality and standard of reports generated by diagnostic chains, which is fast mushrooming across the country; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the decision was taken in recent meeting of the MCI Executive Council following recommendations by its Ethics Committee, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) Yes. Medical Council of India (MCI) has directed so *vide* its letter dated 14.06.2017.

(b) Yes.

(c) This decision was taken by Executive Committee of the Council at its meeting held on 11.04.2017.

**Challenges posed by rapid population growth**

†1908. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that in a recent report of United Nations with regard to world population, it has been mentioned that by 2024 India will become the country with the largest population;

(b) the view of Government with regard to basic facilities of food, nutrition, employment and health of such a large population along with solution of numerous problems that will ensue; and

(c) the steps taken so far to stabilize or check the increase in population and whether it has given satisfactory results and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): (a) Yes.

(b) Government is expanding health infrastructure and human resources, besides bringing in new interventions to increase the accessibility to health services.

(c) The details of steps taken to stabilize increasing population are given in the Statement.

As a result the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) has declined to 2.2 (NFHS IV) and the Decadal growth rate has declined to 17.64 % as per Census 2011.

***Statement***

Steps taken to check the increase in population are

- Mission Parivar Vikas has been launched to increase access to contraceptives and Family Planning services in 146 high fertility districts.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.