THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) and (b) There is some shortage of General Duty Medical Officers (GDMOs) under CGHS. The space and other facilities are adequate despite some constraints. Government have taken steps to deal with shortage of GDMOs, such as, enhancement of retirement age of GDMOs to retain the talent, introduction of time-bound promotions for doctors upto Senior Administrative Grade, increase of duration of Study Leave to pursue higher studies/research work, Foundation Training Programme for newly recruited Medical Officers, electronic submission of Annual Performance Appraisal Report on Smart Performance Appraisal Report Recording Online Window software, etc. Recruitment of GDMOs to fill up the vacant posts through Union Public Service Commission is undertaken every year. These efforts have resulted in consistent decline in shortage of GDMOs of Central Health Service from 30.03% (as on 01.01.2015) to 14.23% (as on 01.01.2019). Government has put in place online appointment system for consultation at CGHS Wellness Centres to avoid long waiting time.

(c) Presently, there is no such proposal. However, *vide* OM dated 15.01.2018, instructions have been issued to simplify referral system under CGHS in respect of all CGHS beneficiaries in all CGHS cities. As per these instructions, all CGHS beneficiaries are permitted to seek OPD consultations from specialists at private hospitals empanelled under CGHS after being referred to by any Medical Officer/CMO of the CGHS Wellness Centre.

Housing of CGHS dispensary, Sahibabad in permanent building

†1208. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that CGHS dispensary (D94) at Sahibabad is facing many fundamental problems due to running in a private building;
- (b) whether Government proposes to shift this dispensary in a permanent building in view of paucity of space and increasing burden of beneficiaries on it; and
- (c) if so, the deadline stipulated by Government to transfer this dispensary in a big or permanent building and enhance the facilities including the number of doctors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) to (c) There is no problem of paucity of space at Sahibabad CGHS Wellness Centre and the building is sufficient to meet the present patients load. Presently, there is no proposal to shift CGHS Wellness Centre Sahibabad to any building.

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.