

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the concerned department and nodal officer along with the entire mechanism regarding the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) to (d) The health awareness media campaigns from central level by this Ministry are released through Bureau of Outreach and Communication (formerly Directorate of Audio Visual Publicity), Doordarshan, All India Radio, Lok Sabha / Rajya Sabha Television, etc. There is no separate mechanism to engage NGOs / individuals for this purpose.

Apart from this, since Health is a State subject, under National Health Mission (NHM), financial and technical support is provided by the Government of India to the States/Union Territories (UTs) to strengthen their health system including for undertaking health awareness campaigns. These funds are sanctioned based on the requirements posed by the states/UTs in their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs).

**Specialists to met the requirement of cardiac patients in NER**

3437. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is insufficient number of doctors in North Eastern Region (NER) to meet the requirement of cardiac patients, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government and Medical Council of India (MCI) consider that more qualified doctors are required in the NER to meet the needs of cardiac patients;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government proposes to promote the institutions and Universities in NER conducting/willing to conduct Post Graduate Diploma or certificate course in clinical cardiology; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) to (c) Public health and hospitals

being a State subject, the primary responsibility to ensure availability of doctors including in North Eastern Region (NER), lies with the respective State Governments. Availability of Doctors in public health sector varies from state to state depending upon their policies and context. However, Under National Health Mission (NHM), financial and technical support is provided to States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare systems including support for recruitment of doctors on contractual basis, based on the requirements posed by them in their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) within their overall resource envelope. Further, the data regarding number of Cardiologist in North Eastern Region of the country is not maintained centrally. Furthermore, as per Postgraduate Medical Education Regulations, 2000 of Medical Council of India (MCI), DM Cardiology and DM Pediatric Cardiology are available in the country with an intake capacity of 397 post graduate seats. Further, National Board of Examination (NBE) is running Diplomate of National Board (DNB) seats in Cardiology and Fellowship (FNB) in Interventional Cardiology. Presently, there are 211 DNB seats in Cardiology and 34 seats in Fellowship (FNB) in Interventional Cardiology.

(d) and (e) No. Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Cardiology has not been prescribed in Medical Council of India's Post Graduate Medical Education Regulation, 2000. However, with a view to curb the shortage of doctors in the Country, the Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Establishment of new medical colleges attached with district/referral hospitals in 82 districts in under-served areas in the country with fund sharing between the Central Government and States in the ratio of 90:10 for NE/special category states and 60:40 for other states. In the said scheme 9 medical colleges have been approved in North Eastern Region and 2 have become functional. The Ministry also runs a scheme to grant assistance to Government Medical Colleges to start new PG courses/ increase PG seats. The cost ceiling per seat is ₹ 1.2 crore shared between Centre and States on 90:10 pattern for NE/ Special category States.

#### **Increase in incidence of Asthma**

3438. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidence of Asthma is increasing day by day for the last couple of years due to increase in pollution levels and various other reasons;

(b) the total number of Asthma patients in Delhi in 2018-19;