

delivery with policy shifts from selective care to comprehensive care in primary healthcare, infrastructure and human resource development, strengthening of health systems to address Maternal, child and Adolescent health, to improve immunization coverage, to strengthen disease control programmes, to reverse the growing trend of non-communicable diseases, mainstreaming the potential of AYUSH, etc. The Policy also recommends putting in place necessary regulations and strengthening regulatory bodies for the same. The Policy calls for strengthening professional councils in the field of professional medical education. It also recognizes the role of technology in healthcare delivery and advocates extensive deployment of digital tools for improving efficiency of the healthcare system.

(b) and (c) As per National Health Accounts (NHA) Estimates, Government Health Expenditure as a percentage of GDP has increased from 1.13% in 2014-15 to 1.18% in 2015-16. The National Health Policy, 2017 envisages raising public health expenditure to 2.5% of GDP by 2025 in a time bound manner. It also envisages increasing State sector health spending to more than 8% of flick budget by 2020.

#### **Comparative study on healthcare spending**

3450. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any comparative study regarding spending by Government in Health Sector with regard to BRICS countries, ASEAN, SAARC etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is satisfied with its current spending on Health Sector; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) and (b) The World Health Organization (WHO), Global Health Expenditure Database (GHED) provides data on spending by various Governments on health including India and countries of BRICS, ASEAN, SAARC etc.

(c) and (d) Government is constantly increasing investment in health, As per National Health Accounts (NBA) Estimates, Government Health Expenditure as a



percentage of GDP has increased from 1.13% in 2014-15 to 1.18% in 2015-16. The National Health Policy, 2017 'envisages raising public health expenditure to 2.5% of GDP by 2025 in a time bound manner. It also envisage increasing State sector health spending to more than 8% of their budget by 2020.

#### **Health facilities for LGBTQ community**

3451. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing health outreach activities under Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (RKSK) aimed at transgender and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexuals, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) adolescents, as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgement in NALSA vs Union of India 2014; and

(b) the future plans of health outreach activities under RKSK aimed at transgender and LGBTQ adolescents as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgement in NALSA vs Union of India 2014?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY) : (a) Government of India is supporting States/UTs in implementation of Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya. Karyakram which reaches out to adolescents; male and female, rural and urban, married and unmarried, in and out-of-school. It also covers those adolescents who belong to vulnerable groups.

The programme is implemented through health facilities, schools and within communities. It includes in its ambit curative and counselling services as well as provision of commodities related to sexual and reproductive health, nutrition, injuries and violence (including gender based violence), non-communicable diseases, mental health and substance misuse. Adolescent Health Counsellors placed in the health facilities are trained to provide non- judgmental, holistic counseling services to the adolescent clients. They also provide appropriate referral if needed. The outreach activities carried out by these Counsellors covers adolescents within the schools and community setup who are unable to attend the health facility.

The National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) is implementing Adolescence Education Programme in schools, in which students are trained in Life Skills through a module developed by NCERT. NACO also focuses on providing HIV prevention and treatment services to persons aged 18 years and above.