

DR. JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

### **Demand for release of funds under National Health Mission (NHM) to West Bengal**

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Thank you, Sir. My Special Mention is on 'Demand for release of funds under the National Health mission to West Bengal' regarding which our hon. Chief Minister, Madam Mamta Banerjee, has also written a letter to hon. Prime Minister a few days back.

In our endeavour, we are providing affordable, accessible and quality healthcare to all free of cost in West Bengal. There has been a significant increase in our budgetary allocation to healthcare in the last 12 years and many important public health initiatives, such as construction of super-specialty hospitals, Swasthyasathi, Sishusathi, Matrima, Chokher Alo, etc., have been successfully launched in the last few years and a large number of people have benefited out of these.

Under the National Health Mission also, West Bengal has always been frontrunner in implementation of different public health programmes. As a part of NHM, our State has been performing exceedingly well for setting up Health and Wellness Centres in the State.

You may be happy to know that, at present, there are around eleven thousand functional Health and Wellness Centres benefiting to more than three lakh people every day. These buildings have been constructed since 2011 in accordance with colour branding of State.

I am informed that fund release under NHM to West Bengal has been withheld due to non-compliance of certain colour branding guidelines for Health and Wellness Centres, despite other conditions being fulfilled. Withholding of fund release would adversely deprive the poor people of their benefit.

Kindly appreciate that changes in the colour brand by way of repainting so many buildings would involve significant infructuous expenditure.

I urge the Government for release of NHM fund for West Bengal and for removal of specific colour branding conditions for the Health and Wellness Centres for fund release under NHM, so that the poor people do not suffer from lack of quality health services.

DR. JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI JEBI MATHER HISHAM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI PRAKASH CHIK BARAIK (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, the remaining Special Mentions will be taken up tomorrow.

The House stands adjourned to meet at 11.00 am on Wednesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2023.

*The House then adjourned at fifty-nine minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Wednesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2023.*