

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1325

ANSWERED ON:18.07.2014

HEALTH POLICY

Kumar Shri Kaushalendra;Kumar Shri Shailesh (Bulo Mandal);Maadam Smt. Poonamben Hematbhai

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

- (a) whether the progress of the country in the healthcare sector is grossly inadequate to provide quality healthcare services to the people and if so the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has evaluated the quantity and quality of healthcare services being delivered under the existing policy/schemes run by the Government;
- (c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof including the shortcomings noticed therein;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to formulate a new health policy to meet adequately the healthcare needs of the people and if so, the details thereof indicating the major changes likely to be effected in the existing policy and the time by which it is likely to be done; and
- (e) whether the Government also proposes to declare healthcare as a Fundamental right of the citizens and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a):Public Health being a State subject, the primary responsibility for providing good quality health services to the population is that of the State governments. Under the National Health Mission (NHM) which encompasses the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and the National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) as its two Sub-Missions, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare system including support for provision of quality healthcare services to those who access public health facilities.

(b):NRHM/NHM is the flagship scheme of the Ministry. The implementation of NRHM is reviewed through external surveys such as, National Family Health Survey (NFHS), District Level Household Survey (DLHS), Annual Health Survey (AHS) and Sample Registration System (SRS). NFHS-4 Survey is presently ongoing. Institute of Economic Growth conducted an evaluation of NRHM on behalf of the Planning Commission. Further, Common Review Missions (CRMs) also undertake a review of NRHM/NHM every year.

(c): The information is available in public domain as under:

DLHS 4:

<https://nrhm-mis.nic.in/SitePages/DLHS-4.aspx>

AHS:

http://www.censusindia.gov.in/vital_statistics/AHS

SRS:

http://www.censusindia.gov.in/vital_statistics/SRS_Report_2012/1_Content_2012.pdf

Evaluation of NRHM: Institute of Economic Growth: <http://planningcommission.nic.in/report/peoreport/peoevalu/peo2807.pdf>

CRM reports:

<http://nrhm.gov.in/monitoring/common-review-mission/7th-common-review-mission.html>

A summary of observations of the Common Review Missions and the external evaluation by the Institute of Economic growth is annexed.

(d): The Ministry has initiated the process of formulating a new health policy.

(e): At present there is no legislation on Right to Health Care under consideration of the Government.