

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:239

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2011

PUBLIC HEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan

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

- (a) whether the Government recognises the need for proper governance, regulation, quality assurance and information technology infrastructure in health sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up a Public Health Development Authority (PHDA); and
- (d) if so, the details and the present status thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 239 FOR 9.12.2011

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Health is a state subject and governance of healthcare sector primarily falls within the purview of the State Governments. However, Government of India, under the National Rural Health Mission and other programmes, support States in improving their governance structure including capacity building. In respect of regulation and quality assurance, the Government of India has promulgated the Clinical Establishments (Registration & Regulation) Act, 2010, with an objective to provide for the registration and regulation of clinical establishments in the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Further, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been established by the Government under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, for laying down science-based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption. Steps have been taken to strengthen the drugs regulatory mechanism. These include strengthening of manpower, strengthening of laboratories with new equipments, setting up of new zonal and sub-zonal offices of the Central Drugs Safety and Standards Organisation, launching of a new programme called the Pharmacovigilance Programme of India to track adverse drug reaction, amending the Drugs and Cosmetics Act to make penal provisions more stringent and setting up of special Courts in several states.

A Web based Health Management Information System (HMIS) has been developed and operational for online data capturing at the district and sub-district level and its transmission to the State and National Level. Mother and Child Tracking System (MCTS) for name-based tracking of pregnant women has been initiated to ensure that pregnant women receive adequate Ante-natal care and Post-natal care besides encourage institutional deliveries. The system also aims to track the new borns so that timely and complete immunization may be ensured to them. In addition, Government is encouraging introduction of telemedicine by States/Union Territories to improve access to secondary and tertiary health care.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): Does not arise.