

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3723
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2012
MEDICAL TESTS FOR RURAL PEOPLE
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether at present Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) and Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) workers visit villages and take people to primary health centres to get some ordinary medical tests like blood sugar, BP, ECG, etc. done;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is aware about a tablet developed in India to conduct ECG, heart rate, blood Sugar and BP on the spot;
- (c) if so, whether this tablet can be useful to ASHA and ANMs to help people get them tested on the spot; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to provide this tablet to help the health workers as well as rural people in far flung areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a): Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) at Sub Health Centres provide outreach services at the village level. Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) is the interface between the community and the health facilities. She facilitates immunization for children, ANC check-ups for pregnant women etc. Performance based monetary incentives are provided to ASHAs to accompany the pregnant women to health institutions for the promotion of institutional deliveries under Janani Surksha Yojana(JSY). Under National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS), the services of ANMs have been utilized for screening population above 30 years and pregnant women for diabetes and hypertension.

(b) to (d): There is no proposal to provide tablet to ANMs and ASHAs under NPCDCS. For investigation and treatment of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs), there are NCD clinics at districts and CHC level with pathological investigation facilities. The NCD clinics are equipped with basic medical equipments to diagnose heart conditions and other related diseases.