GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4779 ANSWERED ON:04.05.2012 FUNCTIONING OF NRHM Singh Shri Ijyaraj ;Sinh Dr. Sanjay

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to get the functioning of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) investigated afresh by surprise raids on the primary health centres being run under this mission;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to check corruption prevailing in the NRHM?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) At present there is no such proposal.
- (c) Health is a State subject and its implementation and monitoring is primarily done by the respective State Governments.
- (d): The following steps have been taken by the Government to check corruption in NRHM
- (i) Submission of quarterly Financial Monitoring Reports by the States;
- (ii) Annual Statutory Audits;
- (iii) Concurrent Audits; and
- (iv) Visits by the teams of the Financial Management Group of the Ministry to States for per iodical reviews. In order to build financial management capacities in States, the following initiatives have been taken by the Ministry: -
- (i) Model Accounting Handbooks for sub-district level finance / accounts personnel for Commu nity Health Centres / Primary Health Centres, Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Committees (VHSNCs), Sub Centres, Rogi Kalyan Samitis (RKS) and Block Accountants have been prepared and cir culated;
- (ii) Detailed operational guidelines on Financial Management have been prepared for adoption and implementation at State, district, block and village levels under the NRHM;
- (iii) E-training modules on finance and accounts to help train finance personnel in all States have been disseminated;
- (iv) E-transfers are being effected for fund releases to all States and Districts countrywide. An E-banking web enabled MIS to generate information on funds available and expenditure there against is under implementation;
- (v) Guidelines and advisories on non-diversion of funds, State share contribution and utili zation of funds (RKS and VHSNC) have been sent to the States; and
- (vi) Customised Tally ERP 9 accounting software has been implemented for maintaining NRHM Acc ounts in the majority of the States / UTs. The implementation of NRHM in States is reviewed through Joint Review Missions (JRMs), Common Re view Missions (CRMs) and periodical reviews by the Ministry. Deficiencies / shortcomings noticed during the reviews are immediately brought to the notice of the States for remedial action.

Further, the Ministry had requested the Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) for conducting annual transaction audits of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in all the States from the Finan cial Year 2011-12 in order to identify the existing gaps, facilitate independent monitoring and timely corrective measures so that a quality and timely audit assessment becomes available to as sist the State Governments in undertaking remedial measures and achieving the targets of NRHM.

The CAG's office in its reply dated 2nd January, 2012 has stated that the audit of NRHM shall be incorporated by Accountants General of all States in their regular audit planning process.