

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3130  
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2013  
PROCUREMENT OF DRUGS AND EQUIPMENT UNDER NRHM  
Jindal Shri Naveen

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

- (a) the quantity and value of total drugs and equipment purchased by the State Governments under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has reviewed the procurement process followed by the State Governments for buying drugs and equipment under the NRHM;
- (c) if so, whether any deficiencies/irregularities have been observed in the said process;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government;
- (e) whether the Government plans to establish a Central procurement agency for procurement of drugs and equipment under the NRHM; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be established?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

- (a): The state/UT-wise allocation & utilization on drugs and equipment under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) during each of the last three years is annexed.
- (b): The implementation of NRHM in States including procurement of drugs is reviewed through Common Review Missions (CRMs), periodical reviews by the Ministry and through audits.
- (c) & (d): Public Health is a state subject. As such, states follow State Government rules and procedures for procurement of drugs and equipments from their budget and also from funds sanctioned under NRHM for the purpose. No specific irregularity has come to the notice of the Ministry. However, States have been advised to set up robust procurement system like the Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation, IT enabled logistics and supply chain management, quality assurance system etc for improving drug procurement and distribution. Further, the States/UTs have been requested to ensure mandatory disclosure on the State NRHM Website regarding all procurements.
- (e) & (f): Central Medical Services Society (CMSS), an autonomous agency for procurement of quality health sector goods and services has been registered on 22.03.2012 under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. However, the society is yet to be fully functional.