

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4588
ANSWERED ON:21.02.2014
BILATERAL COOPERATION IN HEALTH SECTOR
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has held any bilateral meetings with Netherlands and some other countries to strengthen cooperation in health sector in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the issues discussed during the said meetings;
- (c) the details of the Memoranda of Understanding (MoU)/cooperation agreements signed with these countries; and
- (d) the extent to which the public health challenges being faced by India are likely to be addressed on account of such agreements in the coming years?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): From 1st January, 2013 onwards bilateral meetings have been held between Minister of Health & Family Welfare and his counterparts from Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Timor-Leste, Yemen, Guinea, Mozambique, Congo, European Commission, Germany, Switzerland, USA, China, Afghanistan, Sweden, Fiji, Yemen, Maldives, Indonesia, Vietnam and Netherlands.

Various issues concerning Health Sector were discussed during the above mentioned meeting.

(c): From 1st January, 2013 onwards Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs)/ Agreements/ statements of Intent (Sol) etc. on Cooperation in health sector had been signed with Netherlands, Bangladesh, the United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland, Yemen, Australia, Indonesia, Maldives, and Food and Drug Administration of the United States of America (USFDA).

(d): Recognising the importance of promoting public health and further developing the healthcare in both countries through joint efforts and the importance of cooperation in combating global public health risks, the above MoUs/ Agreements inter alia aim at strengthening and improving the standards of health of the people of participating countries.