

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3965  
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2015  
PATIENTS WELFARE COMMITTEES  
Parthipan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether the patient welfare committees under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) are functioning in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the objectives, functions and activities of the said committees, State/UT-wise including Tamil Nadu; and
- (c) the details of the efforts made/ proposed to be made by the Government to improve the medical facilities in rural areas of the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) & (b): Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), guidelines have been issued to States/UTs for constitution of Rogi Kalyan Samitis/ Hospital Management Committee at all public health facilities at the level of Primary Health Centre and above. Rogi Kalyan Samitis (RKS) are envisaged as effective management structures for managing the public health facilities and is required to be registered under the Societies Registration Act and act as a group of trustees for the hospitals to manage the affairs of the hospital. RKS is expected to play a central role in upkeep of the facilities and ensure provision of better facilities to the patients in the hospital.

While broad guidelines have been issued by the Central Government, since public health facilities are under the administrative control of the States/UTs Governments, the objectives, functions etc of the RKS' are as per their Memorandum of Association at the time of their registration under Societies Registration Act.

Out of 32162, public health facilities of Primary Health Centre level and above, as per Rural Health Statistics, 2014, there are 30516 RKS constituted across the country as on 30 September, 2014. In Tamil Nadu, RKS is constituted in all 2021 public health facilities of Primary Health Centre level and above.

(c): Public Health being a State subject, the primary responsibility to provide and improve medical facilities in rural areas is that of States/UTs Governments. However, under National Health Mission, the Government Of India provides financial support for strengthening of healthcare systems, including support for improving the medical facilities in rural areas based on the requirement proposed by the States/UTs in their annual Programme Implementation Plan (PIP).