

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1715
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2014
ICT IN HEALTH
Singh Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is being used to provide quality health services in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government believes that the existing mechanisms for providing ICT in health services is sufficient and efficient and if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken by Government to effectively provide ICT in health, particularly in rural and hilly areas; and
- (c) the funds allocated/spent for providing ICT in health services in the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a): Government has taken various steps for use of ICT for service delivery by rolling out pan-India IT systems like Mother and Child Tracking System (MCTS) for tracking mother and child health care services, Health Management Information System (HMIS) to monitor delivery of services at facility level, Nikshay for monitoring of the Revised National TB Control Programme, Tele-medicine, on-line system for registration and drug delivery for Central Government Health Services (CGHS), on-line registration of clinical establishments, medical stores supply-chain management, etc. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) has launched a National Health Portal (NHP) to enable citizens' access to reliable, easy to understand and multilingual health information from an interactive portal. The Government is also utilizing Social Media like Twitter to reach out to the citizens on health related issues.

Further, Government has supported R&D initiatives in development and deployment of medical devices and systems, such as Medical Linear Accelerator for Cancer Therapy, screening of Cervical Cancer among women (CerviSCAN), disease surveillance system for Malaria, Closed Loop Anaesthesia Delivery System (CLADS). In addition, Government has also set up infrastructure for repair and maintenance of electro-medical equipment in North Eastern region.

(b): Technology in the last few years has aided patients and providers alike by enhancing the quality of delivery of health care. The Government of India is focusing on using ICT applications for improving and further strengthening the health care service delivery and the monitoring mechanism as mentioned above.

(c): Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been providing support to all the States and UTs under the National Health Mission for providing ICT in health services. The information provided by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is as follows:

(i) Although, there is no separate budget head for ICT activity, States have been getting funds for the ICT activity through Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) process, of the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) activity under the National Rural Health Mission. The budget details for the years 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 are at Annexure-I.

(ii) Under Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), ICT infrastructure in states/ districts has been established for data collection and analysis to detect early warning signals of impending outbreaks due to epidemic prone diseases. This helps in reducing the morbidity and mortality caused due to any outbreak thereby improving quality of health service in the country. The funds released to the States in last three years for implementation of IDSP including ICT given at Annexure- II.