GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1408 TO BE ANSWERED ON 14th MARCH, 2017

HIGH RATE OF CAESAREAN SURGERIES IN THE COUNTRY

1408. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM:

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

- (a) whether an online petition was signed by more than 1.3 lakh people seeking accountability and Government intervention over alarming rise in caesarean surgeries mainly in private hospitals;
- (b) whether it alleges that doctors in private hospitals are increasingly pushing unsuspecting women towards surgical deliveries to fleece more money for hospitals; and
- (c) whether according to National Family Health Survey 2015-16 conducted in 15 States and Union Territories, rate of C-section surgeries in some States were found as high as 87.1 per cent whereas WHO norms prescribe C-section deliveries to be at 10-15 per cent of total number of deliveries?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)

- (a) & (b): A petition has been signed by more than 1.3 lakh people on change.org website. As per the petition, Caesarean deliveries have become a business and hospitals and doctors are making money from unsuspecting women and pushing them towards surgical deliveries. Petitioner also talks about the higher rate of C-sections in private hospitals than public hospitals.
- (c): C-section data for 35 State/UTs is available in NFHS-IV, (2015-16). As per NFHS-IV no states has C-section rate of 87.1%.