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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1880 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th DECEMBER, 2023

FUND UNDER NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION (NHM) FOR PUNJAB

1880: SHRI SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK

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

(a) the reasons for holding 621 crores of Punjab under National Health Mission (NHM) and by when this fund will be released;

(b) when State Government's mandatory contribution is 40 per cent in PM-JAY, how the term, 'Pradhan Mantri' which represents only Central Government is used in the name of the scheme and the reason as to why the contribution and share of the State Government not allowed to be reflected in the name of the scheme and for hiding the contribution of the State Government in this scheme; and

(c) the reasons as to why the States are not involved in deciding the name of the scheme, which requires mandatory contribution of the State Government?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (c): Department of Expenditure (DoE) Guidelines stipulate that all the States/UTs have to adhere to the guidelines on the Scheme for Special Assistance to the States for Capital Investment 2023-24. One of the mandatory conditions stipulated in Para (4) is as below:
'Full compliance with the official names of all Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) [correct translation to local language is permissible] and any guidelines / instructions issued by the Government of India regarding branding of CSSs, in all Schemes of all Ministries.'

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the MoHFW, Government of India (GoI) and the Punjab Government for implementation of National Health Mission (NHM) from 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2026 (Reference- DO No.- Z-14011/1/2022-NHM-II (Pt-7) Dated 16th

January, 2023). (Clause 10.3 of NHM specifies that "The State shall ensure that the implementation of the programme/activities envisaged under the Mission is as per the Framework of Implementation of NHM and other guidelines provided by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare."

Clause 10.10 of NHM specifies that "The State Government shall adhere to all the existing manuals, guidelines, instructions and circulars issued in connection with implementation of the NHM, which are not contrary to the provisions of this MOU.").It is to be noted that the branding of Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) (now called Ayushman Arogya Mandir), detailed guidelines were issued to all States/UTs vide letter No. D.O.No.Z-15015/11/2017-NHM-I dated 30th May 2018. This compliance was reviewed with all states/UTs frequently in meetings and correspondences with States. A D.O No. -28015/201/2023-NHM-I dated 25th November 2023, has also been shared with the State for renaming of AB-HWCs as Ayushman Arogya Mandir.

Punjab Government has not adhered to the DoE Mandatory compliance guidelines on the scheme for special assistance to the States for Capital Investment 2023-24 and has violated the provisions of Clause 10.3 and 10.10 of MoU signed between the MoHFW, GoI and the State as it has not followed the branding guidelines and has branded Primary Health Centres -Health and Wellness Center (PHC-HWCs) as Aam Aadmi Clinic (PHC-HWC) and not as Ayushman Bharat -Health and Wellness Center (now Ayushman Arogya Mandir). The State has also not followed the colour scheme nor displayed the six logos.

MoHFW has written various letters informing the State on this issue and a review meeting was held with Minister of Health, Punjab in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Hon'ble HFM .

For the FY 2023-24 under NHM Central share allocation is Rs. 457.90 crores. Central Share released till date is Rs 51.11 crores and Central Share to be released is Rs. 402.48 crores which has not been released due to non-compliance of DoE guidelines and non-adherence to clauses of MoU signed between Centre and State for NHM.
