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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 904 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03RD DECEMBER, 2024

SAFETY MEASURES FOR WOMEN IN HEALTHCARE SECTOR

904. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

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

- (a) whether Government has a system to monitor compliance with security directives as per the action plan of National Task Force and support States in performing quarterly security audits to assess the effectiveness of existing safety mechanisms at healthcare facilities;
- (b) if not, the timeline thereof;
- (c) whether Government is considering specific central funding or grants to assist States to bolster hospital safety infrastructure, by installing CCTV cameras, deploying well-trained security personnel, and mitigating poorly lit areas; and
- (d) if not, the reason therefor?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) & (b): 'Health' and 'Law & Order' are State subjects. It is, therefore, the primary responsibility of the concerned State/ Union Territory to monitor safety and security mechanisms, including security audits, at healthcare facilities to prevent violence against medical professionals. However, the Central Government had issued advisories to all the States/ Union Territories to take immediate measures for enhancing security and providing safer working environment for medical professionals.

Taking cognizance of recent alleged rape and murder incident of a trainee doctor in R. G. Kar Medical College and Hospital, Kolkata, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India constituted a National Task Force (NTF) for formulating effective recommendations to remedy the issues

of concern pertaining to safety, working conditions and well-being of medical professionals and other cognate matters. The NTF has already submitted its report to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

(c) & (d): The Central Government provides technical/ financial support to assist the States/ Union Territories in the health sector. As 'Health' is a State subject, it is upto the State/ Union Territory to utilise their financial resources to strengthen the hospital safety infrastructure including installation of CCTV cameras, deploying well-trained security personnel, illuminating poorly lit areas, etc.
