RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1056
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09TH DECEMBER, 2025

SETTING UP OF QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE UNDER NHM IN PUDUCHERRY

1056. SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY:

Will the **MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

(a) under quality improvement programmes in National Health Mission (NHM), whether quality assurance committees are formed in Puducherry;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) the details of meeting conducted by the committee and what action had been taken so far to improve the quality of the hospital;
(d) whether any third party audit is engaged by Government of Puducherry in implementing the scheme; and
(e) whether any quality certification- ISO had been obtained by Government of Puducherry in extending various health facilities to the people?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

(a) to (e): The National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) program is a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, designed to improve the quality of care in public health facilities. It provides a structured framework for hospitals and health Centres to assess and certify their services against internationally benchmarked standards accredited by ISQua.

The program covers District Hospitals, Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres, Urban PHCs, Health and Wellness Centres, and recently integrated Public Health Laboratories. NQAS is organized around eight areas of concern — service provision, patient rights, inputs. support services, clinical care, infection control. quality management, and outcomes — ensuring a holistic approach to healthcare delivery. Certification under NQAS enhances patient trust, strengthens accountability and aligns India's healthcare system with global best practices, supporting the country's goal of universal health coverage.

This quality framework is operationalized through the State Level Quality Assurance Committee (SQAC), chaired by the Secretary of Medical and Health, and the District Level Quality Assurance Committee (DQAC), chaired by the District Collector; both bodies comprise a diverse mix of health directors, specialists and NGO representatives to oversee

standards and reporting.

Since "Public Health and Hospitals" is State subject, the primary responsibility of strengthening public healthcare system, including setting up of quality assurance committees and obtaining of quality assurance certification under the NQAS program lies with the respective State/UT Governments.

As per the information furnished by the U.T. Government of Puducherry, the State level and District level Quality Assurance Committees are yet to be formed in the U.T. of Puducherry. No third party audit has been engaged by the Government of Puducherry. State Certification has been awarded to 11 Health facilities in the U.T. of Puducherry. One Ayushman Arogya Mandir-Primary Health Centre (AAM-PHC) has received National Certification under NQAS. Two District Hospitals and one Government Medical College in Puducherry have received National Certification under LaQshya programme.

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