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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4305 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2024

DEATHS DUE TO LACK OF OXYGEN

† 4305 SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ: SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:

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

- (a) whether the Government has collected data on suspected deaths due to lack of oxygen in the country and if so, the details thereof, States/UTs-wise:
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any investigation into such deaths and if so, the details thereof,
- (c) whether the Government has issued any guidelines to States/UTs for compiling reports of deaths due to lack of oxygen and if so, the details thereof,
- (d) whether the Government has fixed any responsibility upon the concerned officials/authorities for not providing medical oxygen supply and for not being able to prevent such deaths, if so, the details thereof, and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure adequate supply of medical oxygen to the States/UTs and other steps taken in this regard?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (d) Health is a State subject. While, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare does not routinely maintain any centralized database on number of deaths due to lack of oxygen in the country, on 13th December, 2024 (and again on 16th December, 2024) all States/UTs were requested for providing data on 'deaths due to lack of oxygen'. No reports of deaths due to lack of oxygen has been received by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare from any States/UTs.
- (e) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare provides requisite technical, logistic and financial support to all States and has also supported the states through logistic and financial support to further strengthen the health infrastructure and service delivery.

Some of measures taken to promote adequate supply of medical oxygen to the States/UTs include financial support for installation of Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) storage tanks with Medical Gas Pipeline Systems (MGPS); supply of oxygen cylinders and oxygen concentrators to all States/UTs. Further, Government of India has supported installation of Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) plants in district hospitals across all States/UTs.
