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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1101 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH APRIL, 2016

DISCONTINUATION OF CONSULTANTS

1101. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: SHRI CHANDU LAL SAHU:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to discontinue the services of several foreign funded consultants working under various health programmes and associated with NGOs;
- (b) if so, the number of such consultants whose services have been discontinued program-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to appoint alternative professionals to take up the work of these consultants?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) to (c): Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance vide Office Memorandum No. 1/42/2015-PMU dated 29.12.2015 & 07.01.2016, has prescribed guidelines for engagement of Consultants by the Ministries/ Departments of Government of India from bilateral partners/ multilateral organisations.

In pursuance thereof, the proposal for continuation of Consultants engaged with the support from bilateral partners and multilateral organizations, under various programmes in the Department of Health & Family Welfare, was placed before the Screening Committee of Secretaries (SCoS) constituted for the purpose.

The SCoS in its meeting held on 18.03.2016 decided that such Consultants who have completed tenure of 3 years must be disengaged within a period of 3 months: that is by June 2016. In respect of such Consultants engaged for less than 3 years, SCoS has decided to engage them as per the need and subject to all the terms and conditions stipulated in the Department of Economic Affairs' Office Memorandum referred above.

Implementation of the guidelines in the matter issued by the Department of Economic Affairs and execution of the decision of SCoS is a continuous process.