

- Setting up Nutritional Rehabilitation Centers (NRCs) for Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) Children.
- Establishing Referral systems including emergency referral transport, for which the states have been given flexibility to use different models.
- A new initiative Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) has been launched on 1st June 2011 which entitles all pregnant women delivering in public health institutions to absolutely free and no expense delivery including Caesarean section. Free entitlements have also been put in place for all sick newborns accessing public health institutions for treatment till 30 days after birth.

(e) and (f) The Rural Health Statistics published by the Government of India every year provides information on the numbers of different types of health facilities, availability of human resources and infrastructure etc. at these facilities in the rural and tribal areas of the country.

To improve medical facilities & doctors in these areas, the key steps taken by the GOI are:

- Augmentation of human resources: over 1.5 lakhs health human resources including nurses, paramedics and management professionals have been added to strengthen the health care delivery system in the country since the launch of NRHM.
- Financial assistance has been provided to the States to strengthen the healthcare facilities through new construction/up-gradation/renovation work in these health facilities. This also includes flexible funds through Rogi Kalyan Samities (RKS), Annual Maintenance Grants (AMG) and United Funds.

Free Medicines to Patients

2120. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA:

SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated a scheme to provide free medicines to patients visiting Government health facilities across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the scheme will be implemented;

(c) whether hospitals under State Governments are also covered under the scheme; and

(d) the details of measures taken to strengthen medical facilities in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Health is a State subject and State Governments are providing health care including drugs to the patients. In order to strengthen the hands of the State Governments, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is providing additional support under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) for overall health system strengthening including infrastructure, human resources, drugs etc. Under NRHM, a new initiative called Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK) has been launched under which funding is given to the States for providing medicines free of cost to all pregnant women who access the Government health facilities for delivery as well as sick neonates born to them upto 30 days after birth.

(c) Pregnant women who access 'hospitals under State Governments for delivery as well as sick neonates born to them up to 30 days after birth are covered under this scheme.

(d) Under NRHM, the following strategies are being implemented to strengthen healthcare service facilities:

- * Multi skilling of MBBS doctors, on emergency obstetric care & life saving anesthesia training.
- * Training on skilled attendance at birth to Staff Nurse/ ANMs/Lady Health Visitors (LHVs).
- * Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Days in rural areas as an outreach activity to promote institutional delivery.
- * promotion of institutional delivery through Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY).
- * Name Based Tracking of Pregnant Women to ensure antenatal, intranatal and postnatal care. ‘
- * Mother and Child Protection Card in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child development to monitor service delivery for mother and children.
- * Mobile Medical Units have been operationalised in order to provide medical facilities at the doorsteps of the remote rural areas.
- * Emergency Response services and ambulances have been deployed to enable transport and referral for emergencies.
- * Construction/upgradation of health infrastructure.
- * Augmentation of HR including Doctors, specialists, nurses and para medical staff.
- * Untied funds/annual maintenance grants to Sub-centres, PHCs and CHCs.