

Kilkari scheme

1053. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of women who have benefited from the free audio messages under the Kilkari scheme;
- (b) the names of the States where the scheme has been implemented; and
- (c) the details about how data on mobile numbers of pregnant mothers is accessed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) The Kilkari program is a mobile based service launched in 2016, for new and expectant mothers aimed at encouraging them to make healthier choices for their newborn messages about Pregnancy, childbirth and childcare directly to the beneficiaries. It is an audio based service and hence overcomes the literacy challenges of rural India.

The Kilkari program has benefitted 2,02,19,155 unique beneficiaries from 15th January 2016 to 31st August 2020.

(b) Kilkari Scheme is currently operational in 13 States/UT's: Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

(c) Kilkari delivers free, weekly, time appropriate audio messages about pregnancy, child birth and child care *via* Interactive Voice Response (IVR) to women registered in MCTS/RCH portal. Messaging begins in the second trimester of pregnancy and continuous until the child is one-year-old. The pregnant mother data is fetched from MCTS/RCH portal to Kilkari through web service which has been implemented between both the applications.

Rare Diseases component under the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi

1054. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated budgetary allocation in 2020-21 for the Rare Diseases component under the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi;

(b) the total budget allocated and the actual budget utilised for the Rare Diseases component under the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi in the previous years 2019-20 and 2018-19;

(c) the various categories of Rare Diseases treated so far and the socio-economic status of people who availed treatment benefits for Rare Diseases; and

(d) the details about the awareness campaigns initiated by Government to ensure people know about the availability of monetary assistance for treatment of Rare Diseases under the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) An amount of ₹ 77.32 crore has been provided in Budget Estimates of 2020-21 for the Rare Diseases component under the Umbrella scheme of Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN).

(b) Umbrella scheme RAN was formulated w.e.f. 1.1.2019. No funds was released under the rare diseases component of Umbrella scheme of RAN during 2018-19 against the allocation of ₹ 7.5 crore at the Revised Estimates (RE) stage. In the financial year 2019-20, against the allocation of ₹ 25 crore at the RE stage, ₹ 1.30 crore was released

(c) Financial assistance under the rare diseases component of Umbrella scheme of RAN has been provided as revolving funds to AIIMS, New Delhi for treatment of eligible patients suffering from specified rare diseases and for treatment of patients suffering from Chronic Granulomatous and Tuberous Sclerosis with Epitheloid of AML in other hospitals. Patients belonging to BPL families are eligible for one time grant upto ₹ 15 lakhs for treatment of specified rare diseases in Government hospitals under the Umbrella scheme of RAN.

(d) States/UTs have been apprised about the scheme so that eligible poor patients could avail the financial assistance for treatment of life threatening diseases. All details regarding the Scheme, viz documents required, eligibility criteria, procedure and contact details for queries have also been placed on Ministry's website for wider dissemination and increasing awareness.