

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 80
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2nd February, 2021**

**INSUFFICIENT FUNDS WITH HOSPITALS FOR ORDERING COVID-19
TESTING KITS**

80 DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH:

Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that several hospitals do not have sufficient funds to order as many testing kits are required in these areas and
- (b) the response of Government to the fact that they are not able to function with the available capacity?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b): “Public Health & Hospitals” being a state subject, the primary responsibility of strengthening of health care system lies with respective state Government. However, States/Union Territories (UTs) are being provided required technical and financial assistance for strengthening of their healthcare system including management of the COVID-19 Public Health Challenge from time to time.

Under the ‘India COVID 19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness package’, Rs. 6309.90 crore has been released to the States/UTs, through Agency- National Health Mission (NHM) for emergency COVID response including for procurement of test kits.

Further states/UTs has already been provided with additional in-kind support in the form of various COVID 19 diagnostic kits and machines.

As far as three Central Government Hospitals namely Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical college & Associated Hospitals, New Delhi as well as All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi are concerned, no shortage of funds has been reported to order as many COVID-19 testing kits are required by them.