

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.880
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH JULY, 2021**

OUT OF THE POCKET SPENDING ON HEALTH

880 SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that out of the pocket health spending forced 55 million Indians into poverty
- (b) whether it is also a fact that 63 per cent of health spending is borne by households which is one of the highest in the world and only after Myanmar (76.5%) and Bangladesh (73.9%)
- (c) whether it is also a fact that India's out of pocket expenses is the highest among countries with most COVID-19 cases and
- (d) if so, the reasons thereof and how Ministry is planning to address the same?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (d) As per the latest Global Health Expenditure Database (GHED), the out-of-pocket expenditure as % of the Current Health Expenditure (CHE) for India and some of the countries is as under:

Countries	Out-of-pocket expenditure as % of Current Health Expenditure (CHE)
France	9
United State of America	11
Germany	13
United Kingdom	17
Brazil	28
Russian Federation	38
India	63
Sudan	66
Tajikistan	68
Bangladesh	74
Cameroon	76
Turkmenistan	76
Myanmar	76
Nigeria	77
Afghanistan	78

Source: GHED Database, 2018 World Health Organization (WHO)
<https://apps.who.int/nha/database/Select/Indicators/en>

As per National Health Account Estimates, out of pocket expenditure (OOPE) as a percent of current health expenditure (CHE) has declined by 5.9 percentage points from 69.1% in 2013-14 to 63.2% in 2016-17. This implies that financial protection to households for healthcare has improved over this period.

Public Health & Hospital being a State subject, the primary responsibility to provide affordable healthcare services to the people lies with the State Government. However, the Central Govt. has taken several initiatives for supplementing the efforts of the States for providing quality and affordable healthcare services to the people. Some of the major initiatives include National Health Mission, Ayushman Bharat (AB)-Health & Wellness Centres (HWCs), Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) and upgradation of medical colleges.

The other major initiative, announced in the current year budget (2021-22) is Pradhan Mantri Atma Nirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana (PM-ASBY), a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme, with an outlay of about Rs. 64,180 crores. This will develop capacities of primary, secondary, and tertiary care Health Systems, strengthen existing national institutions, and create new institutions, to cater to detection and cure of new and emerging diseases. This will be in addition to the National Health Mission.

Further, the Ministry has supported the efforts of the States/UTs under India COVID 19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness package-I and II for management of COVID-19 pandemic and strengthening of the healthcare infrastructure. States have also been allowed to use SDRF for COVID related measures.