

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 247
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30TH NOVEMBER, 2021**

UPGRADATION OF DIFFERENT LAYERS OF HOSPITALS IN THE COUNTRY

247:SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI:

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

- a) whether Government has prepared any concrete national level plan to upgrade Primary Health Centres, District Hospitals. Regional level hospitals, State level Hospitals throughout the country with required facilities to face adverse situations like the one faced by the country during second wave of COVID-19;
- b) if so, the details thereof;
- c) whether the Union Government would extend necessary help and assistance to the State Governments in upgradation of medical infrastructure; and
- d) if so, the nature of assistance proposed to be extended?

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

(a) to (d): "Public Health and Hospitals" being a State subject, the primary responsibility of strengthening public healthcare system, including setting-up/upgrading public health facilities, increasing the number of Hospitals/care taking centres, lies with the respective State Governments. However, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs, for their health system strengthening, including that of Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and District Hospitals (DHs) through the National Health Mission (NHM). The States/UT Governments are also encouraged to meet the objective of making Health Care services equitable, accessible and affordable by increasing their health budgets each year.

Government has taken following initiatives to upgrade Primary Health Centres, District Hospitals. Regional level hospitals, State level Hospitals throughout the country with required facilities to face adverse situations like the one faced by the country during second wave of COVID-19:

- Under Ayushman Bharat scheme, Government of India has approved setting up of 1.5 lakh Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs), across the country by upgrading Sub-Health Centres (SHCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Urban Primary Health Centres (UPHCs) by December, 2022.
- During the FY 2019-20, funds to the tune of Rs. 1113.21 crore were released to the States/ UTs under NHM towards management and containment of COVID-19 pandemic.
- Since September, 2020, the Union Government has allowed use of State Disaster Response Funds (SDRF) for various COVID-19 related activities.
- During the financial year 2020-21, Rs. 8147.28 Crs. have been released to the States/ UTs towards the India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package. In addition, Rs.110.60 Crs have been made available for insurance of Health Care workers. Thus, a total amount of Rs.8257.88 Crs have been provisioned to provide support to States/UTs for health infrastructure strengthening, expansion of laboratory network, surveillance and contact tracing, procurement of PPEs, N-95 masks, ventilators etc.
- In addition, 'India COVID-19 Emergency Response & Health System Preparedness Package: Phase-II has also been approved by the Cabinet with Rs. 23,123 crores (with Rs. 15,000 Cr as Central Component & Rs. 8,123 Cr as State component) and is being implemented from 1st July, 2021. This includes support to State/ UT level for ramping up health infrastructure including those in rural, tribal and peri-urban areas closer to the community, providing support for procurement of drugs and diagnostics to enhance service delivery at district and sub district levels for management of COVID-19 cases (including paediatric care) and for maintaining a buffer of drugs, support for IT Interventions such as implementation of Hospital Management

Information System (HMIS) and expanding access to tele-consultations in all districts and support for capacity building and training for all aspects of management of COVID-19.

- Further, PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) with an outlay of Rs. 64,180 crores till 2025-26 envisages increased investments in public health and other health reforms to safeguard against future resurgences of COVID-19, if any, and future public health emergencies by:
 - Strengthening of Health and Wellness Centres in villages and cities for early detection of diseases.
 - Addition of new critical care-related beds at district level hospitals.
 - Operationalization of Regional National Centres for Disease Control (NCDC).
 - Establishment of metropolitan units in urban areas and BSL-III labs across the country to strengthen the laboratory network.
 - Strengthening of existing Viral Diagnostic and Research Labs (VRDLs) and creation of new National Institutes of Virology (NIVs) and a National Institute for One Health through ICMR.
 - Strengthening of Public Health Units at international Points of Entry (PoEs).