

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3138  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28<sup>h</sup> MARCH, 2023**

**INCREASE IN PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT IN THE HEALTH SECTOR**

**3138: SHRI ADITYA PRASAD:**

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

- (a) whether Government has recently noticed an increase in public sector investment in the health sector due to the inability of the majority of people to afford private healthcare;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether most hilly and rural areas, as well as North Eastern States are equipped with negligible public health services; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government to boost public sector healthcare in the country?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY  
WELFARE**

**(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (d): With a view to reducing the high out of pocket expenditure, the Government has undertaken increased investment in the health sector. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is implementing various schemes through States/UTs like National Health Mission (NHM), Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), Establishment of New Medical Colleges & Increase of Seats in existing Government Medical Colleges, Pradhan Mantri -Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) etc. and also executing Central Sector Schemes like Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) to provide affordable and quality tertiary health care facilities. So far setting up of 22 new AIIMS and 75 projects of upgradation of Government Medical Colleges/ Institutions (GMCIs) have been approved under the PMSSY in various phases.

The budget allocation for DoHFW has increased by 82% from Rs. 47,353 Crores in 2017-18 (BE) to Rs. 86,175 crores in 2023-24 (BE). The 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission has provided Rs. 70,051 Crores Grants for health through the Local Governments.

The 'India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package-I' (ECRP-I) of Rs.15,000 Crores was approved by the Cabinet on 22nd April 2020 with an objective to prevent, detect and respond to the threat posed by COVID-19. The Cabinet has

also approved, “India Covid-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Package-II” (ECRP-II) on 08th July 2021 for an amount of Rs.23,123 Crores.

As per the available National Health Accounts Estimates for India, the details Government Health Expenditure are given in table as under:

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>
Government Health Expenditure (GHE) (Rs. in Crore)	139949	161863	188010	231104	242219
GHE as % Total Health Expenditure	29.0%	30.6%	32.4%	40.8%	40.6%

Addressing the healthcare needs of the rural population including the North Eastern States has been a priority for the Government. The Central Govt. has taken several initiatives for supplementing the efforts of the State for providing quality and affordable healthcare services to people including the population in rural, hilly areas and NE States.

Under National Health Mission (NHM), the Government provides support to the State Governments for improvement in health infrastructure, availability of adequate human resources to man health facilities, to improve availability and accessibility to quality health care especially for the underserved and marginalized groups in rural areas. Major initiatives for which States are supported include Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK), Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (RKSK), implementation of NHM Free Drugs and Free Diagnostics Service Initiatives

PM-ABHIM was launched as a mission to develop the capacities of health care systems (primary, secondary, and tertiary) strengthen existing national institutions and create new institutions to cater to detection and cure of new and emerging diseases. PM-ABHIM is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with some Central Sector components for implementation of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Package for health sector with an outlay of Rs 64,180 crore.

Under Ayushman Bharat Health & Wellness Centres (HWCs), Comprehensive Primary Healthcare by strengthening Sub Health Centres (SHCs) and Primary Health Centres (PHCs) are facilitated. The HWCs are to provide preventive, promotive, rehabilitative and curative care for an expanded range of services encompassing Reproductive and Child care services, Communicable diseases, Non-communicable diseases and all health issues.

Under National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS), NHM, 708 District NCD Clinics, 301 District Day Care Centres, and 5671 Community Health Center NCD Clinics have been set up for treatment of the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) including Cancer,

Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), Scheme provides health coverage of Rs.5.00 lakh per family per year to around 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable families for secondary and tertiary care as per Socio Economic Caste Census data 2011.

Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) was announced on 27th September, 2021 with aim to develop the backbone necessary to support the integrated digital health infrastructure of the country.

Besides, quality generic medicines are made available at affordable prices to all under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) in collaboration with the State Governments. Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) Pharmacy stores have been set up in some hospitals/institutions.

Further, the Department of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) have been earmarking 10% of budgetary allocation for Plan Schemes for the benefit of the schemes/ projects in the North Eastern Region (NER). Under the Central Sponsored Scheme for up-gradation of District/ Referral Hospital to Medical College, a total of 12 medical colleges have been approved in North East States. “Strengthening and upgradation of State Government Medical colleges for starting new PG disciplines and increasing PG seats” Scheme 4 medical colleges have been approved in the North-Eastern region for increasing 258 PG seats. Further, Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) Government has approved All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Guwahati, two Government Medical/Institution (GMC) in Assam and one in Tripura. Moreover, as per Rural Health Statistics 2021-22, 7921 Sub Centres, 1728 Primary Health Centres and 360 Community Health Centres are functioning in Rural and Urban areas of North Eastern States of India.

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