

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 895
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.02.2025**

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO POOR PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM LIFE
THREATENING DISEASES**

895. DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE:

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

- (a) whether Government provides any financial assistance to poor patients living below State/UT threshold poverty line and suffering from life threatening diseases relating to heart, kidney, liver, cancer, etc. for treatment and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government provides financial assistance to the patients suffering from any category of the Rare Diseases and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to sanction additional fund for patients with life threatening diseases; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (d) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provides one-time financial assistance of up to Rs. 15 lakh per patient under the Umbrella Scheme of Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) for the treatment of poor patients living below State/UT-wise poverty line, suffering from life-threatening diseases, in Government Hospitals/Institutes with super specialty facilities.

Under another scheme that is Health Minister's Discretionary Grant (HMDG), financial assistance of up to Rs. 1.25 lakh per patient is provided to poor patients suffering from life-threatening diseases, to cover a part of the expenditure on hospitalization/treatment in Government Hospitals/Institutes, in cases where free medical facilities are not available. Those having annual family income of up to Rs. 1.25 lakh are eligible for financial assistance under HMDG.

Details of aforementioned schemes are available at: <https://mohfw.gov.in/?q=Major-Programmes/poor-patients-financial-support>

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has also launched National Policy for Rare Diseases (NPRD) in March 2021. Under NPRD, 2021, financial assistance of up to Rs. 50 lakh is provided to the patients suffering from any of 63 Rare Diseases identified under the policy through 13 identified Centres of Excellence (CoEs).

Further, Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) provides health cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per eligible beneficiary family per year for secondary and tertiary care for in-patient care.
