

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2015#
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2025**

MEASURES TO CONTROL FUTURE PANDEMICS IN UTTAR PRADESH

2015# DR. LAXMIKANT BAJPAYEE:

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

- (a) the details of preparations made by Central Government in Uttar Pradesh in the event of a future pandemic;
- (b) the details of hospitals, beds, diagnostic centres, pharmacies and various other facilities developed and to be developed/designated for this purpose, district-wise;
- (c) the details of any other plan made/to be made to effectively deal with the pandemic; and
- (d) the budget allocated for this purpose to Uttar Pradesh?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Prevention of and preparedness against pandemics is shared global responsibility. 'Health' is a State subject. In order to better prepare against future pandemics/public health emergencies in the country, Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare provides requisite support to States/UTs to enhance their capabilities.

To enhance disease surveillance activities, the Ministry has strengthened the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) across the country, which allows for a decentralized system of response through trained multi-disciplinary Rapid Response Team (RRTs) to institute requisite public health control and containment measures. IDSP, through its Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) has also been strengthened to use advanced data modelling and data analytical tools, which has features for real-time data reporting and is accessible at all levels.

In terms of laboratory strengthening, under IDSP, States have strengthened laboratories at district and State levels. Further, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has established a network of more than 150 Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDLs) for strengthening of nation-wide network of laboratories for timely laboratory based diagnosis of pathogens. Seven such laboratories have been operationalized in Uttar Pradesh. With the view to strengthen the

diagnostic capacities for bacteria, fungi and parasites, some VRDLs have been identified for upgradation as Infectious Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratories. This includes laboratory at King George's Medical University, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. ICMR has developed two mobile Biosafety Level 3 (BSL-3) laboratories to provide essential on-site diagnostic services during outbreaks, especially in remote areas. One such mobile laboratory is deployed at Regional Medical Research Center Gorakhpur.

With the long-term goal to better prepare our country against public health emergencies, Pradhan Mantri - Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) has been launched with the intent to enhance the capacity of primary, secondary and tertiary health care facilities/systems and institutes for identifying and managing any new and emerging diseases. Some of the initiatives under PM-ABHIM for the State of Uttar Pradesh include:

- i. Construction/strengthening of 1670 Building less-AAM (Sub-Centers - Ayushman Arogya Mandir), 674 Urban-Ayushman Arogya Mandir (AAMs), 515 Block Public Health Units, 75 Integrated Public Health Labs at District level and 74 Critical Care Blocks
- ii. Establishment of NCDC State branch at Varanasi
- iii. Establishment of NCDC Regional branch at Lucknow
- iv. Establishment of NCDC BSL-3 Laboratory at Varanasi
- v. Establishment of Metropolitan Surveillance Unit in Agra, Varanasi and Lucknow
- vi. Establishment of a Critical Care Block at Institute of Medical Sciences under Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi

(d) Funding support has been provided to States/UTs for health system strengthening to meet any exigency due to public health emergencies like pandemics. During the FY 2020-21, funds to the tune of Rs. 8473.73 crore have been released to the States/UTs towards the India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package (ECRP-I) for health infrastructure strengthening, expansion of laboratory network, surveillance, procurement of medical logistics etc. Under India COVID 19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Package-Phase II, a sum of Rs. 12,740.22 crore support was provided to States/UTs for ramping up health infrastructure and provision of medical logistics. This included funds provided for enhancement of bed capacities at Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres and District Hospitals; establishment of Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) plants, establishment of paediatric Centres of Excellence and paediatric ICU beds etc.

Further, a release of approximately Rs. 4791.67 crore has been provided as central release of grants under PM-ABHIM (since April 2021-22 till February, 2025) for better public health preparedness through Critical Care Blocks at Medical Colleges and District Hospitals, Integrated Public Health Laboratories, etc.

Financial support of Rs. 557.49 crore, Rs. 1879.88 crore and Rs. 546.3 crore was provided to State Government of Uttar Pradesh under ECRP-I, ECRP-II and PM-ABHIM respectively.
