

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 09.11.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**INADEQUATE ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE .**

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Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy

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

- (a) whether contribution of private sector in terms of availability of hospital beds has gradually increased from 61 per cent in 1996 to 78 per cent in 2009 but still access to quality healthcare is still a distant dream for many in the country;
- (b) whether according to a report released by Confederation of Indian Industry(CII), Indians have inadequate access to quality healthcare, particularly, the poor residing in rural areas;
- (c) whether according to the report about 7.8 per cent of households are pushed below poverty line because of expenses incurred on healthcare; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

## THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (d) The report titled "India Health Report 2010" prepared by Indicus Analytics inter-alia mentions that: Contribution of private sector in terms of availability of hospital beds has increased from 61 per cent in 1996 to 78 per cent in 2009. Indians have inadequate access to quality health care, particularly, the poor residing in rural areas; About 7.8 per cent of households are pushed below poverty line because of expenses incurred on health care.

Through National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Central Government is supporting the State Governments to improve the primary health care system so as to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the rural population especially the vulnerable sections. Under the NRHM, the States with unsatisfactory health indicators were classified as special focus States to ensure attention. The thrust of the mission is on establishing a fully functional, community owned, decentralized health delivery system with inter sectoral convergence at all levels, to ensure simultaneous action on a wide range of determinants of health like water, sanitation, education, nutrition, social and gender equality. During the five years period of NRHM (2005-10) there has been a visible improvement in the human resources, physical infrastructure etc. Over the period, besides construction of new health facilities and upgradation/ renovation of existing facilities, 8624 MBBS Doctors, 2460 Specialists, 46660 ANMs, 26793 Staff nurses, 7692 AYUSH doctors, 3143 AYUSH paramedics added to the system under NRHM. Nearly, 7.05 lakhs ASHA workers have been trained and placed at village level to function as a link between the community and health system. Further, all health sub centre, PHC, CHCs, Sub-Districts and District Hospital are provided untied grants as per their requirements.