

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2849
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH MARCH, 2018**

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION FOR TB PATIENTS

2849. DR. VIKAS MAHATME:

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

- (a) what are the mechanisms/steps taken by Government to provide public health action *i.e.* Contact, Tracing, Direct Benefit Transfer etc. for TB patients under the private sector hospitals as the number is more than public sector hospitals;
- (b) other than the free medicines what are the steps taken by Government to support TB/Drug resistant TB patients to complete their treatment; and
- (c) what budgetary allocation has been made to provide psychosocial and economic support to the TB patients under the private sector?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): For all the patients notified to the programme either from public or private sector, the public health action taken under the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) include:-

- Capturing address with landmark along with mobile number of the patient in the NIKSHAY software.
- RNTCP staff of that block visit the patient and ensure that the public health actions like contact tracing, chemoprophylaxis to children under 6 years are undertaken apart from follow up, HIV testing and counseling of the patients and family members and outcome reporting.
- Carrying out Direct benefit transfer of incentives by capturing Aadhar number of the patient and bank account details while notifying patients in NIKSHAY and ensuring patient verification at the District level.

(b): The steps taken by the Government to support completion of treatment by TB patients are:

- Treatment supporters who can be from community or even from the patient's family ensures Directly Observed Treatment (DOT).
- Reimbursement of travel expenditure for patient and one attendant of drug resistant TB patients.
- Financial Incentive to tribal patients.
- Patients are reminded or followed up regularly through various methods of Information Communication Technology (ICT).

(c): There is no separate budgetary allocation to provide psychosocial and economic support for patients in the private sector. Pooled budgetary allocation is made for the patients from public and private sectors, under different budgetary heads.