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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 290
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

COVID-19 CERTIFICATE FOR ENTERING HOSPITALS

290 **SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:**

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

(a) whether such news are in the cognizance of Government that patients have been asked for bringing Covid-19 test report before entering the Government hospitals;

(b) if so, whether it would be fair to force poor people to bring this test report, which involves an expenditure of ₹ 2400/- ; and

(c) whether Government could make such a system on the gates of hospitals by which all the patients could be tested before entering the hospitals?

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

(a) to (c) Health is a State Subject. Government of India has issued advisory to the States not to insist on COVID test for undergoing emergency procedures. This advisory is applicable for both government and private hospitals.

The Covid tests are provided free of cost in hospitals under the Central Government. "The Government is implementing Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) to provide health cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to around 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable families (approx. 50 crore Individuals) as per Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) data. To effectively cover AB-PMJAY beneficiaries for testing and treatment of COVID-19, packages for ‘Testing for COVID-19’ and ‘Treatment of COVID-19’ have been notified."