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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1727
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD AUGUST, 2021

CAPACITY BUILDING IN HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY

1727 SMT PHULO DEVI NETAM:

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

(a) whether Government is planning to **increase the number** of hospitals in each St ate including Punjab;
(b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
(c) whether Government plans **to increase capacity of existing hospitals** to accom modate more COVID-19 patients;
(d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor;
(e) whether Government is **cognisant of bed allotment scandals** in hospitals;
(f) if so, the details thereof including corrective action taken and, if not, the reasons therefor; and
(g) the details of the **process followed to ensure beds are allocated to patients** w ho are most in need?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (g): "Public Health and Hospitals" being a State subject, the primary responsibility of strengthening public healthcare system, including setting-up/upgrading public health facilities, increasing the number of Hospitals and increasing the capacity of existing hospitals and ensuring allocation of beds to the needy patients, lies with the respective State Governments. However, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs to strengthen the public healthcare system at public healthcare facilities.

States/UTs are being provided required technical and financial assistance for strengthening of their healthcare system including management of the COVID-19 public health challenge from time to time.

Accordingly, support has been provided to States/UT under the "India COVID-19 Emergency Response & Health System Preparedness Package"forthe containment and management of pandemic, **including for augmentation of infrastructure, oxygen supported beds, isolation beds, ICUs**& Human Resources, supply of drugs, etc. During the financial year 2020-21, Rs.8147.28 Crs. has been released to States under this package. In addition, Rs.110.60 Crs has been made available for insurance of Health Care workers. Thus, a total amount of Rs.8257.88 Crs has been provisioned for the States/ UTs.

The Cabinet has also approved the scheme, **"India Covid-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Package - Phase-II" (ECRP-Phase-II)** on 8.07.2021 for an amount of Rs.23,123 crores. The scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) with some Central Sector (CS) components. The Scheme is aimed to prevent, detect and respond to the continuing threat posed by COVID-19 and strengthen national health systems for preparedness in India.

Under CSS components of ECRP-II, support is provided to the States for provision for establishing District Paediatric Units (42 or 32 bedded units including Oxygen Supported beds and ICU beds) in all the Districts of the Country. Besides, support is also provided to increase the availability of ICU beds in Medical Colleges, District Hospitals, Sub District Hospitals and Community Health Centres. Further, taking into consideration, the recommendations of EG-1, support is extended to create pre-fabricated structures for establishing 6 bedded units at Sub Health Centres and Primary Health Centres and 20 bedded units at Community Health Centres for meeting the requirement of hospital beds in rural, peri-urban and tribal areas. Besides, the support is provided to provision of required drugs and diagnostics for COVID management, including maintaining a buffer stock for essential medicines required for effective COVID-19 management. Further, support is extended to establish Field Hospitals (100 bedded or 50 bedded units) wherever required.

In order to ensure implementation of critical activities at the State/District levels to prepare the public healthcare system in response to the evolving pandemic,15% of Central Share of Resource Envelope of the State/UT, has been released in-advance to the States/UTs .

Regular advisories are sent to the States/UTs to ensure that a comprehensive plan is prepared and steps are taken for augmentation in bed capacities wherever necessary through identification of additional hospitals, preparation of field hospital facilities, ensuring sufficient oxygen supported beds, oxygen supplies, ICU beds and deployment of requisite HR, training & mentoring of doctors and nurses for management of patients, strengthen ambulance services & centralized call center based services for allocation of beds.