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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1569
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15th MARCH, 2022

OUT-OF-POCKET HEALTH EXPENDITURE IN THE COUNTRY

1569: SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:

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

a) whether it is a fact that India has one of the highest Out-Of-Pocket health expenditures in the world;
b) if so, the reasons therefor;
c) the percentage of total COVID-19 cases in the country which were treated under the Ayushman Bharat scheme; and
d) whether it is a fact that for the last three years, the Revised Estimates for the allocation for the Ayushman Bharat scheme has been cut by almost half as compared to the Budget Estimate, and if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (d) According to National Health Accounts (NHA) Estimates for India for 2017-18, the Out-Of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE) as percentage of Current Health Expenditure (CHE)is 55.1%. As per the National Health Accounts (NHA) Estimates, the OOPE on health as percentage of CHE in the country for the years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 are 64.7%, 63.2%and 55.1% respectively and therefore there is declining trend in OOPE as percentage of CHE.

As of 07thMarch 2022, with respect to transactions on National Health Authorityplatform as well as the information shared by the States / UTs, approximately 8.74 lakh hospital admissions worth Rs.30.60 cr have been authorized for the treatment of COVID-19 in hospitals empanelled under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan ArogyaYojana (AB- PMJAY).

The implementation of AB-PMJAY is done by State Governments.The budget estimates for the scheme for 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 was Rs 6400 crore in each year against which the RE was Rs 3200 cr, Rs 3100 cr and Rs 3199 cr respectively. As per usual procedure in budgetary allocation, after review, the budgetary allocation is revised depending on the utilization of funds. Accordingly, due to less requirement or demand from the states, RE was reduced.

No beneficiary of the scheme has been denied any treatment due to lack of funds.

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