

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1462
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14TH MARCH, 2023**

POLICY PERTAINING TO EMERGENCE OF NEW DISEASES

1462. DR. SUMER SINGH SOLANKI:

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

- (a) Whether Government is considering to bring a new policy with regard to detection and treatment of new and emerging diseases;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) The steps being taken by Government in this regard?

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

(a) to (c) :

The National Health Policy formulated in 2017 envisages to provide universal access to good quality health care services through increasing access, increasing affordability by lowering the cost of health care delivery and equity. The policy envisages as its goal the attainment of the highest possible level of health and wellbeing for all at all ages, through a preventive and promotive health care orientation in all developmental policies, and universal access to good quality health care services without anyone have to face financial hardship as a consequence.

To strengthen the Public Health Infrastructure effectively manage and respond towards any future pandemics and outbreaks, PM-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) was announced in Budget 21-22 on 1st February 2021. The PM-ABHIM is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with some Central Sector Components, for implementation of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Package for health sector as announced by Hon'ble Finance Minister in May 2020. The scheme was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 25th October, 2021 in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh with a total financial outlay of Rs 64,180 Crore for five years (2021-22 to 2025-26).

The objective of the scheme is to fill critical gaps in health infrastructure, surveillance and health research – spanning both the urban and rural areas so that the communities are Atmanirbhar in managing such pandemic/ health crises. It is the largest Pan-India scheme for public health infrastructure since 2005.

The measures under the scheme focus on developing capacities of health systems and institutions across the continuum of care at all levels viz. primary, secondary and tertiary and on preparing health systems in responding effectively to the current and future pandemics/disasters. The scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with some Central Sector Components.

Centrally Sponsored Components:

- Setting up of 730 Integrated Public Health Labs in all districts across theCountry.
- Establishment of 50-100 bedded, 602 Critical Care Hospital Blocks in all the districts with population more than 5 lakhs and referral linkages in other districts.
- Establishment of 3382 Block Public Health Units at block levels.
- Infrastructure Support for 17,788 rural building less Healthand Wellness Centres.
- Establishment of 11,024 urban Health and Wellness Centres in all the Stateswith a focus on slum and slum like areas

Central Sector Components

- Strengthening of the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), 5 New Regional NCDCs and 20 metropolitan health surveillance units;
- Operationalisation of 17 new Public Health Units and strengthening of 33 existing Public Health Units at Points of Entry, that is at 32 Airports, 11 Seaports and7 land crossings;
- Setting up of 15 Health Emergency Operation Centres and 2 container based mobile hospitals;
- Setting up of a national institution for One Health, 4 New National Institutes for Virology.
- Setting up of a Regional Research Platform for WHO South East Asia Region and 9 Bio-Safety Level III laboratories
- Establishment of 150 bedded Critical Care Hospital Blocks in 12 CentralInstitutions.
- Expansion of the Integrated Health Information Portal to all States/UTs to connect all public health labs.
