

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN WELFARE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2935
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27th March, 2023

ECHS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

2935 SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE PILLI:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of the Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS);
- (b) the number of beneficiaries who have availed services through ECHS in last three years;
- (c) the amount spent by Government under the scheme; and
- (d) the district-wise details of the hospitals empanelled under ECHS in Andhra Pradesh??

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI AJAY BHATT)

(a): The Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) was launched in April 2003 to provide quality medical care to the Ex-servicemen (ESM) and their dependents. It has 30 Regional Centres (RC) and 433 Polyclinics (PC) pan India including 06 in Nepal and 3158 empanelled medical facilities with a total beneficiary base of approximately 55 Lakhs. It is structured on the lines of Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) to provide cashless and capless medical treatment cover at CGHS rates.

The scheme entitles all ESM drawing pension from Controller of Defence Accounts, including those in receipt of Disability/ Family Pension and their dependents to be eligible for membership. Membership has been made compulsory for all pensioners with effect from 1st April 2003 and is optional for earlier retirees. Over the years, the ECHS membership has been extended to pensioners of Territorial Army (TA), Defence Security Corps (DSC), Uniformed Indian Coast Guard (ICG), Military Nursing Service (MNS), Special Frontier Force (SFF), Nepal Domiciled Gorkha (NDG), Whole time NCC Officers, Eligible Army Postal Service (APS) pensioners, Assam Rifles pensioners, World War (WW) II Veterans, Short Service Commission Officers (SSCOs), Emergency Commissioned Officers (ECOs) & Pre-Mature Retirees.

The amount of contribution for becoming an ECHS member varies from Rs. 30,000/ for recruit to Rs. 1,20,000/ for Officers. The ESM who have retired prior to 1st January 1996, war widows and war disabled including those disabled in internal security duties, are exempted from payment of ECHS contribution.

(b): A total of 3,35,62,481 beneficiaries availed services through ECHS during last three years: -

Sl. No.	Calendar Year	Number of Beneficiaries Footfall
(i)	2020	58,80,023
(ii)	2021	1,23,81,583
(iii)	2022	1,53,00,875

(c): The amount spent by the Department of Ex-Servicemen under the scheme during last three Financial Years (FY) is given below: -

FY	Expenditure in Rs. Crores
2020-21	4579.63
2021-22	4864.66
2022-23 (upto 15.03.2023)	4897.64

(d): Details as per Annexure.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2935 FOR ANSWER ON 27.03.2023 REGARDING
“ECHS IN ANDHRA PRADESH”.**

THE DETAILS OF THE HOSPITALS EMPANELLED UNDER ECHS IN
ANDHRA PRADESH (DISTRICT-WISE)

Sl. No.	District	Empanelled Hospital
1.	Krishna	10
2.	Anantapuram	02
3.	Chittor	05
4.	Eluru	01
5.	West Godavari	03
6.	Guntur	10
7.	Prakashnam	01
8.	Kurnool	01
9.	Nellore	02
10.	Kadapa	02
11.	Visakhapatnam	16
12.	East Godavari	06
13.	Srikakullam	03
14.	Karimnagar	01
15.	Khamman	01
16.	Kakinada	03
Total		67
