

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2848
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25th MARCH, 2025**

INITIATIVES IN HEALTHCARE DEVELOPMENT AND PREPAREDNESS

2848. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

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

- (a) the percentage of GDP allocated to healthcare, and the steps Government is taking to achieve the target of 2.5 per cent of GDP on healthcare spending by 2025;
- (b) whether Government is encouraging public-private partnerships (PPPs) to expand healthcare services in rural and semi-urban areas;
- (c) by when Critical Care Hospital Blocks (CCHB) provided to 12 central hospitals will be fully operational, and how they will enhance emergency healthcare services; and
- (d) the details of measures implemented to improve pandemic preparedness, especially with the fifth anniversary of COVID-19 in March 2025?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) & (b): As per the National Health Policy 2017, public expenditure on health is envisioned to reach 2.5% of GDP by 2025. In this context, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has also taken up with States to prioritize allocation to health sector and enhance their health budgets at least by 8% of total State budget to reach the goal as envisaged. The budget allocation for Department of Health & Family Welfare (DoHFW) has increased by 102.64% from Rs. 47,353 crore in 2017-18 (BE) to Rs. 95,957.87 crore in 2025-26 (BE). Further, the 15th Finance Commission for the grant period from 2020-21 to 2025-26 has provided Rs. 70,051 crore Grants for health through the local Government.

Public-Private Partnership (PPP) has been one of the mainstays and continues to be an integral part of health reforms in India. Under National Health Mission (NHM), the Government is encouraging PPP model to modernize the health ecosystem of district hospitals in the country. PPP has significant role in 'Free Diagnostics Service Initiative' (FDSI) programme, Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme (PMNDP), Bio-Medical Equipment Maintenance and Management Programme etc.

The Government has launched four mission mode projects, namely PM-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM), Ayushman Bharat Health & Wellness Centres (ABHWCs), Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) and Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM). Other notable initiatives are National Health Mission (NHM), setting up of new AIIMS, upgrading of Government medical colleges under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY), support to States/UTs for setting up of new medical colleges as well as for increasing UG and PG medical seats, provision of free drugs and free diagnostic facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHC)/ Community Health Centres (CHC) and district hospital level, substantial increase in availability of government ambulances etc.

(c): The PM-ABHIM Scheme envisages establishment of Critical Care Hospital Blocks (CCHB) in 12 Central Hospitals under the Central Sector Component at a total cost of Rs. 2220 crores. The proposed 150 bedded CCHB is being planned to include emergency complex, intermediate care and HDU, isolation-special category Ward, Intensive Care Unit, Isolation Rooms Burns ICU & HDU, Operation theatre complex, etc. The above CCHBs are at various stage of construction.

(d): Prevention of and preparedness against pandemics is shared global responsibility. In order to better prepare against future pandemics/public health emergencies in the country, Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare provides requisite support to States/UTs to enhance their capabilities.

To enhance disease surveillance activities, the Ministry has strengthened the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), which allows for a decentralized system of response through trained multi-disciplinary Rapid Response Team (RRTs) to institute requisite public health control and containment measures.

In terms of laboratory strengthening, under IDSP, States have strengthened laboratories at district and State levels. Further, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has established a network of more than 150 Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDLs) for strengthening of nation-wide network of laboratories for timely laboratory based diagnosis of pathogens. National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune is the apex laboratory for detection and confirmation of pathogens.

With the long-term goal to better prepare our country against public health emergencies, Pradhan Mantri - Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) has been launched with the intent to enhance the capacity of primary, secondary and tertiary health care facilities/systems and institutes for identifying and managing any new and emerging diseases.
