

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 279  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025**

**RISE IN SERIOUS DISEASES POST-COVID AMONG THE YOUTH**

**279 SHRI SANJAY RAUT:**

Will the **MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a sharp rise in heart attacks, strokes, and other serious illnesses post-COVID, especially among the youth;
- (b) whether Government agrees that timely screening could have prevented many such deaths, and the concrete steps taken thereon;
- (c) whether Government plans to provide every citizen the legal right to free annual health checkups;
- (d) whether Government proposes to introduce an Annual Preventive Health Check-up Rights Act;
- (e) whether the NP-NCD screening age limit will be reduced from 30 to 18 years; and
- (f) whether Government plans special funding for health infrastructure, labs, mobile vans and digital records for nationwide screening?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

- (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 279 \* FOR 19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025**

(a) to (f) The data regarding heart attacks, strokes etc. is not maintained centrally. However, Indian Council of Medical Research-National Institute of Epidemiology (ICMR-NIE) conducted a multi-centric matched case-control study in 25 hospitals across India. Cases were patients aged 18-45 years admitted in the study hospitals with newly diagnosed Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI) between October 2021 and January 2023. Controls were patients aged 18-45 years admitted in the same hospital for other causes, matched for time of hospitalization. Information was collected regarding the various risk factors. Key findings of the study (not yet published) are given below:

- i. Hospitalization with AMI was associated with presence of any known comorbidity, family history of thrombotic event and been a smoker.
- ii. Even in those without any comorbidities, family history of thrombotic events and ever smoking was associated with increased risk of AMI.

In order to prevent and control major Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NP-NCD) was launched by the Department of Health and Family Welfare with focus on strengthening infrastructure, human resource development, health promotion, early diagnosis, management and referral to an appropriate level of healthcare facilities.

A population-based initiative for prevention, control and screening for common NCDs viz diabetes, hypertension, oral cancer, breast cancer and cervical cancer has been rolled out in the country under National Health Mission (NHM) as a part of Comprehensive Primary Health Care. Under the initiative, persons more than 30 years of age are targeted for their screening across the country. Health being a State subject, State Governments may modify the programme as per their specific requirement.

The preventive aspect is strengthened under Comprehensive Primary Health Care through Ayushman Arogya Mandir, by promotion of wellness activities and targeted communication at the community level.

The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare provides technical and financial support to the States and Union Territories to strengthen the public healthcare system including health infrastructure based on the proposals received in the form of Programme Implementation Plans under NHM. Government of India provides approval for the proposal in the form of Record of Proceedings as per norms and available resources.

In addition to the NHM, Government of India allocates funds for developing public healthcare infrastructure and services under Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) with focus on developing capacities of health systems and institutions across the continuum of care at primary, secondary and tertiary levels to prepare health systems in responding effectively to the current and future disasters.

Further, the Fifteenth Finance Commission (FC-XV) has recommended grants through local governments for specific components of the health sector and spread over the five-year period from FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26 to facilitate strengthening of health system at the grass-root level for an amount of more than ₹70,000 crores. These grants are for strengthening primary care through specified components such as Building-less Sub-Health Centres (SHCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs), Conversion of rural PHCs and Sub-Centres to Ayushrnan Arogya

Mandir (AAM), Support for diagnostic infrastructure to the primary healthcare facilities, Block Level Public Health Units, Urban - AAM.

The Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) enables digital health records through the Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA), ensuring continuity of care across providers. The National NCD Portal tracks screening, diagnosis, treatment and follow-up data, supporting program monitoring and accountability. The eSanjeevani tele-medicine platform provides both doctor-to-doctor and doctor-to-patient consultations, enhancing access to healthcare facilities.

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