

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1088
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2025**

STRENGTHENING OF DISTRICT LEVEL HEALTH SYSTEMS

1088. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH:

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

- (a) the details of new plans and guidelines issued to strengthen district-level health systems for timely detection and response to seasonal disease outbreaks this year;
- (b) whether additional budget allocations have been approved for upgrading critical care units and increasing the number of ICU beds in rural hospitals; and
- (c) the steps being taken to ensure a steady supply chain for essential vaccines, diagnostics, and medicines to all States during peak outbreak periods?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a): Under the National Health Mission, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs including strengthening of health care system based on the proposals received in the form of Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) under National Health Mission. Government of India provides approval for the proposal in the form of Record of Proceedings (RoPs) as per norms & available resources.

The incidence of seasonal disease outbreak is monitored through Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme & National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme at national level as per the data reported by states. Depending on seasonality, required technical support, treatment protocols and advisories are also provided to the state by Government of India for effective management of diseases.

The Government of India has successfully implemented the National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) which is a comprehensive framework established by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), aimed at ensuring and enhancing the quality of healthcare services provided at public health facilities.

NQAS provides a comprehensive framework aimed at enhancing the quality of care in public health facilities by focusing on areas such as service provision, patient rights, inputs, support services, clinical care, infection control, quality management. This lead to better patient outcomes and increased public trust in healthcare services.

(b): Under PM-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) has been launched with an outlay of Rs. 64,180 Cr over five years (FY 2021-26). The measures under PM-ABHIM focus on developing capacities of health systems across the continuum of care at all the levels, primary, secondary and tertiary to prepare health systems in responding effectively to the current and future pandemics/disasters

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) components of PM-ABHIM, provision has been made to provide support for establishment of 602 Critical Care Hospital Blocks (CCBs) 50/100 bedded in all the districts with population of more than 5 lakhs during the scheme period i.e. from FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26 including the ICU beds.

(c): Under NHM Free Diagnostics Service Initiative, support is provided for provision of free essential diagnostics in public health facilities.

Under the NHM, Free Drugs Service Initiative, support is provided to the States/UTs not only for provision of essential drugs free of cost in public health facilities but also for strengthening/setting up robust systems of procurement, quality assurance mechanism, warehousing, prescription audit, grievance redressal, dissemination of Standard Treatment Guidelines, and IT backed supply chain management systems like Drugs and Vaccines Distribution Management Systems (DVDMS). All States/ UTs have reported to have notified the policy to provide free essential medicines in public health facilities.
