

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2679
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12th AUGUST, 2025**

PROGRESS OF UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

2679 DR. SYED NASEER HUSSAIN:

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

- (a) the current status of achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in the country, including key health indicators and coverage statistics since the past three years, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the strategies planned to address the barriers identified in the pursuit of UHC, particularly those related to policy implementation, infrastructure gaps and resource allocation to accelerate progress towards UHC;
- (c) the measures taken to strengthen State Governments in supporting the national UHC/agenda along with any collaborative initiatives undertaken; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) to (d): The National Health Policy (NHP) formulated in 2017 envisages to provide universal access to good quality healthcare services through increasing access, increasing affordability by lowering the cost of healthcare delivery and equity. The Policy is centered on the key principles of equity, affordability, universality, patient centeredness & quality of care, accountability and inclusive partnerships.

The Data Snapshot on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)–National Indicator Framework (NIF) Progress Report, 2025 is a report published by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) providing national level time series data for the SDG indicators. Achievements of universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all may be seen at the following link of SDGs NIF Progress Report 2025:

https://www.mospi.gov.in/sites/default/files/publication_reports/Data%20Snapshot%20on%20Sustainable%20Development%20Goals%20%E2%80%93%20National%20Indicator%20Fra

The Central Government has taken up many schemes and programmes to address the barriers identified in the pursuit of UHC and for strengthening State Governments.

With a view to improve health facilities in the country, the Government has taken several initiatives/schemes which include Ayushman Arogya Mandir (AAM), PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM), LaQshya (Labour room & Quality Improvement Initiative), various initiatives under maternal and child health programme, MusQan - Quality improvement initiative of Child Health services, PM –Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (PM -ABDM), Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), improve quality of care delivered under National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) and Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme. The Fifteenth Finance Commission has also recommended health grants to local governments for addressing the gaps in primary health infrastructure in rural and urban areas.

The NHM provides support for improvement in health infrastructure, availability of adequate human resources for health facilities, to improve availability and accessibility to quality health care especially for the underserved and marginalized groups in rural areas. Major initiatives for which States are supported include Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK), Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (RKSK), implementation of NHM Free Drugs and Free Diagnostics Service Initiatives and Health Systems Strengthening.

The Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) envisages creation of tertiary healthcare capacity in medical education, research and clinical care, in the underserved areas of the country. Since the launch of the scheme, setting up of 22 new AIIMS and 75 government medical college up-gradation projects have been approved under this scheme.
