

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1820
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10th MARCH, 2017**

PATIENT RELIEF FUND FOR AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE

1820. SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to launch Air Ambulance Service in collaboration with private air ambulance companies and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether this facility would be available for those patients who are unable to afford charges of Air Ambulance Service, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government plans to establish a patient relief fund also, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)**

(a) & (b): No such proposal is presently under consideration of Department of Health & Family Welfare.

(c): Under the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN), financial assistance is provided to patients, living below poverty line who are suffering from major life threatening diseases, to receive medical treatment at any of the super specialty Govt. Hospitals / institutes or other Govt. hospitals. The financial assistance to such patients is released as a one time grant, to the Medical Superintendent of the hospital in which the patient is receiving treatment. Financial powers have been delegated to the Medical Superintendent/Directors of some selected hospitals/institutes to sanction financial assistance up to Rs. 2.00 lakh in each eligible case reporting for treatment in their respective Hospital/Institute and upto Rs. 5.00 lakh in emergency cases. The hospitals refer the cases to the Ministry, where the amount of treatment exceeds Rs.2.00 lakh.