

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2023
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST DECEMBER, 2018**

FACILITIES TO PATIENTS

2023. ADV. SHARADKUMAR MARUTI BANSODE:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to provide and supply regular Medicines and clinical facilities to indoor and out-door patients of the country;
- (b) whether it is true that due to faulty and out dated equipments in Government hospitals patients are generally referred to private clinics of laboratories due to which they have to bear additional financial burden and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has any future plans to improve and provide updated moderns technologies in the Government institution; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b): Public Health & Hospitals being a state subject; the primary responsibility to ensure regular supply of medicines and clinical facilities to patients in public health facilities is that of respective State/ UT Governments. Under the National Health Mission, the central government provides technical and financial support to States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare system including for provision of accessible, affordable and quality healthcare to the population based on the proposals of the State/ UT Governments.

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.

Under NHM Free Diagnostics Service Initiative, support is provided for provision of free essential diagnostics in public health facilities. To address the wastage of resources and equipment, under NHM, Biomedical Equipment Management & Maintenance Program (BMMP) has been rolled out to ensure that medical equipment are properly maintained. Inventory mapping of bio-medical equipment in public health facilities was undertaken in 29 states / UTs. The program is being implemented in 28 states / UTs.

(c) & (d): The support under NHM also includes support for equipment & use of modern technologies based on proposals received from respective States/UTs in their Programme Implementation Plan (PIPs).