

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 696
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH DECEMBER, 2018**

CHEAPER HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

696. SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes for cheaper healthcare system all over the country by capping prices of critical care treatment procedures, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has set up any expert panel to revise the rates of such procedures and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to club CGHS beneficiaries with National Medical Scheme and the reaction of the service providers, if any, therein;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which the people will get sustainable and quality treatment throughout the country?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) & (b): “Public Health and Hospitals” being a State Subject, the primary responsibility of providing affordable and quality healthcare to the people lies with the respective State/UT governments. Central Government provides financial and technical support to the States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare system for provision of accessible, affordable and quality healthcare. Therefore, no such expert panel has been set up by the Central Government.

(c) & (d): No. A proposal to converge CGHS beneficiaries with other medical schemes was considered in consultation with various central Government Organisations like ECHS, ESIC and Ministry of Railways. However, the proposal could not be finalised as some of these organisations expressed their inability to extend their medical facilities due to infrastructure and manpower constraints.

(e): The respective State/UT Governments have the primary responsibility to provide affordable and quality healthcare in their State/UT through an efficient and patient-centric public healthcare system and by implementing various centrally sponsored health schemes and programmes of Government of India.

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