

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN WELFARE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3996
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24th March, 2023

EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME

3996. SHRI M.V.V. SATYANARAYANA:
SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of the Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS);
- (b) the number of beneficiaries who availed services through ECHS during the last three years;
- (c) the amount incurred by the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare under the Scheme; and
- (d) the details of the hospitals empanelled under ECHS across the country, State/UT-wise and district wise including Andhra Pradesh?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE

(SHRI AJAY BHATT)

IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(a): The Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) was launched in April 2003 to provide quality medical care to the Ex-servicemen (ESM) and their dependents. It has 30 Regional Centres (RC) and 433 Polyclinics (PC) pan India including 06 in Nepal and 3158 empanelled medical facilities with a total beneficiary base of approximately 55 lakhs. It is structured on the lines of Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) to provide cashless and capless medical treatment cover at CGHS rates.

The scheme entitles all ESM drawing pension from Controller of Defence Accounts, including those in receipt of Disability/ Family Pension and their dependents to be eligible for membership. Membership has been made compulsory for all pensioners with effect from 1st April, 2003 and is optional for earlier retirees. Over the years, the ECHS membership has been extended to pensioners of Territorial Army (TA), Defence Security Corps (DSC), Uniformed Indian Coast Guard (ICG), Military Nursing Service (MNS), Special Frontier Force (SFF), Nepal Domiciled Gorkha (NDG), Whole time NCC Officers, Eligible Army Postal Service (APS) pensioners, Assam Rifles pensioners, World War (WW) II Veterans, Short Service Commission Officers (SSCOs), Emergency Commissioned Officers (ECOs) & Pre-Mature Retirees.

The amount of contribution for becoming an ECHS member varies from Rs. 30,000/ for recruit to Rs. 1,20,000/ for Officers. The ESM who have retired prior to 1st January 1996, war widows and war disabled including those disabled in internal security duties, are exempted from payment of ECHS contribution.

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(b): A total of 3,35,62,481 beneficiaries availed services through ECHS during the last three years: -

Sl. No.	Calendar Year	Number of Beneficiaries Footfall
(i)	2020	58,80,023
(ii)	2021	1,23,81,583
(iii)	2022	1,53,00,875

(c): The amount spent under the scheme during last three Financial Years (FY) is given below:-

FY	Expenditure in Rs. Crores
2020-21	4579.63
2021-22	4864.66
2022-23 (upto15.03.2023)	4897.64

(d): Details as per Annexure.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3996 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2023 REGARDING “EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME”.

THE DETAILS OF THE HOSPITALS EMPANELLED UNDER ECHS ACROSS THE COUNTRY, STATE/UT-WISE AND DISTRICT-WISE INCLUDING ANDHRA PRADESH

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of Empanelled Medical Facilities
1.	Andhra Pradesh	67*
2.	Assam	22
3.	Bihar	40
4.	Chandigarh	39
5.	Chhattisgarh	16
6.	Delhi	274
7.	Goa	04
8.	Gujarat	72
9.	Haryana	368
10.	Himachal Pradesh	50
11.	Jammu	25
12.	Jharkhand	23
13.	Karnataka	133
14.	Kerala	158
15.	Madhya Pradesh	97
16.	Maharashtra	364
17.	Manipur	03
18.	Meghalaya	04
19.	Mizoram	05
20.	Nagaland	01
21.	Nepal	16
22.	Orrisa	33
23.	Pondicherry	04
24.	Punjab	338
25.	Rajasthan	259
26.	Sikkim	01
27.	Tamil Nadu	167
28.	Telangana	39
29.	Tripura	05
30.	Uttar Pradesh	388
31.	Uttarakhand	68
32.	West Bengal	75
Total		3158

* ANDHRA PRADESH (DISTRICT WISE) BREAKDOWN

Sl. No.	District	Number of Empanelled Medical Facilities
1.	Krishna	10
2.	Anantapuram	02
3.	Chittor	05
4.	Eluru	01
5.	West Godavari	03
6.	Guntur	10
7.	Prakashnam	01
8.	Kurnool	01
9.	Nellore	02
10.	Kadapa	02
11.	Visakhapatnam	16
12.	East Godavari	06
13.	Srikakullam	03
14.	Karimnagar	01
15.	Khamman	01
16.	Kakinada	03
Total		67
