

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2955  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2021**

**IMPROVEMENT IN SERVICES AT GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS**

**2955. SHRI RAMSHIROMANI VERMA:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the fact that people are forced to avail treatment in private hospitals due to poor services and infrastructure in government hospitals and if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the working condition of government hospitals in the country;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to reduce treatment costs in private hospitals in the country;
- (c) the initiatives taken by the Government to increase number of hospitals and provide better healthcare services particularly for treatment of critical illnesses and ensuring availability of state of the art medical equipments in the hospitals in the country including Shrawasti parliamentary constituency;
- (d) whether the Government has set a target to vaccinate significant number of populace in the country against COVID-19 and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government is contemplating any scheme wherein the people shall be vaccinated at their door steps and 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 & Hospital” being a State subject, the primary responsibility to provide adequate healthcare services in public health facilities including the Government Hospitals across the country lies with the State Governments.

To address the healthcare challenges, particularly in rural areas, the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) was launched in 2005 to supplement the efforts of the State/UT governments to provide accessible, affordable and quality healthcare to all those who access public health facilities. Currently, NRHM is a sub-mission of National Health Mission (NHM).

This support under NHM includes provision of a host of free services related to maternal health, child health, adolescent health, family planning, universal immunisation programme, and for major diseases such as Tuberculosis, HIV/ AIDS, vector borne diseases like Malaria, Dengue and Kala Azar, Leprosy etc.

Other major initiatives include Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK) (under which free drugs, free diagnostics, free blood and diet, free transport from home to institution, between facilities in case of a referral and drop back home is provided), Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) (which provides newborn and child health screening and early interventions services free of cost for birth defects, diseases, deficiencies and developmental delays to improve the quality of survival), implementation of Free Drugs and Free Diagnostics Service Initiatives, PM National Dialysis Programme and implementation of National Quality Assurance Framework.

Mobile Medical Units (MMUs) & Telemedicine are also being implemented with NHM support to improve healthcare access particularly in rural areas.

As part of Ayushman Bharat, the Government is supporting the States for strengthening Sub Centres and Primary Health Centres as Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) for provision of comprehensive primary health care that includes preventive healthcare and health promotion at the community level with continuum of care approach.

Further, Ayushman Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) provides health coverage up to Rs. 5.00 lakh per family per year to around 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable families as per Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC). In so far as implementation of PMJAY is concerned, Public hospitals are reimbursed for the healthcare services at par with the private hospitals under the scheme.

(c): As public health is a State subject, the responsibility of ensuring availability of required medical equipment in the hospitals lie with the respective State Governments.

In the Budget speech of FY 21-22, '**Prime Minister Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana**' (PM-ASBY) scheme has been announced for an amount of Rs. 64180 Crores. The proposed scheme has a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) component of establishing 50 or 100 bedded critical care blocks for the treatment of infectious diseases in 602 districts of the country and also has a Central Sector component of setting up 150 bedded critical care blocks in 12 Central Institutions.

(d) & (e): No such target has been set for COVID-19 vaccination, However, the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 (NEGVAC) has prioritized Health Care Workers, Front Line Workers, persons aged 60 years and above, and those aged between 45 to 59 years with identified comorbidities for COVID-19 vaccination.

Presently, vaccination of Health Care Workers, Front Line Workers, persons aged 60 years and above, and those aged between 45 to 59 years with identified comorbidities is going on at government and private COVID19 Vaccination Centres.