

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2267  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.12.2021**

**INCENTIVES TO CORONA WARRIORS**

**2267. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has announced/ proposes to announce additional financial incentives for deemed COVID-19 warriors namely healthcare and frontline workers working in Government and Private hospitals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the amount disbursed till date;
- (c) whether the Government intends to identify and remunerate those deemed COVID-19 warriors who have not received the incentive amount; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE  
(DR BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (d) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has taken a number of steps to improve wellbeing of healthcare workers managing COVID-19. Few of the actions taken in this regard include:

- With the launch of COVID-19 vaccination initiative on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2021, Healthcare workers were identified as one of the first priority group. State Governments/ UT administrations have been repeatedly urged to ensure that the medical professionals engaged in Covid related work are suitably vaccinated.
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provided guidelines on Infection Prevention and Control practices to the State Governments to minimize the risk of infection to healthcare workers.
- For high-risk exposures, healthcare workers are provided with a quarantine period initially for one week and thereafter taking the profile of the health worker a decision to be taken for

further period of one week. An advisory to this effect for managing health care workers working in COVID and Non-COVID areas of the hospital was issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

- MoHFW on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020, as per directions issued by Hon'ble Supreme Court in a batch of writ petitions and in exercise of powers delegated under section 10(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, States/UTs have been directed to ensure that salaries of doctors and healthcare workers during COVID-19 related duties shall be released on time.
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in consultation with Department of Personnel Training has also directed State Governments to consider quarantine period of healthcare workers as 'on duty'.
- Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has also issued direction to the Chief Secretary of the States/Union Territories on provision for accommodation facilities for quarantine of healthcare workers. States/UTs were also advised to explore various rostering options.
- In the context of COVID-19, the Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 was promulgated on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2020. Further this ordinance was brought before the Parliament has been passed and notified on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The amendment provides for safety and security of Health care Service Personnel (HSPs) from acts of violence.
- Life insurance benefits (Rs. 50 lakhs to 22.12 lakh healthcare providers) are provided under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP): Insurance Scheme for Health Workers Fighting COVID-19. The benefits under the said scheme have been extended w.e.f. 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 for a further period of 180 days.

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