

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3709  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2022**

**PANDEMIC FUND**

**3709. SHRI MARGANI BHARAT:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that only 4 to 5 percent of population is covered under health insurance in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons for such low coverage thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up a specific pandemic fund to support the uninsured population at the time of need in any pandemic crisis; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (d): Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, has informed that the number of lives covered under health insurance was 51.47 crore in the Financial Year 2020-21. This includes Government sponsored schemes like Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) and other State Government sponsored schemes.

Services for COVID-19 testing, treatment and vaccination are free for all citizens in Government health facilities. The Government of India provides financial and technical support to States/UTs under Emergency COVID Response Package (ECRP) to strengthen their health infrastructure for immediate response to the pandemic.

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