

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 612  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2022**

**“COVID-19 HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN”**

**612. SHRIMATI RANJANBEN DHANANJAY BHATT:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the demand for opening a COVID-19 hospital for children in each district of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has given any consideration to the said demand; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a to d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs to strengthen the public healthcare facilities including for children.

Under “India COVID-19 Emergency Response & Health System Preparedness Package(ECRP-II), various initiatives have been taken by the Government to augment the demand for providing adequate facilities for children for the management of Covid-19 in states/UTs. The States/UTs are supported for establishing paediatric care units in all districts across the country. For district paediatric care unit, the oxygen beds, ICU beds and HDU beds with equipments is supported. Across the country, 718 Paediatric Care Units are approved. This budget approved for establishing the paediatric care unit is utilized by states/UTs for infrastructure preparedness at the facility and for preparation of stay of parent / caregiver along with the child in the hospital.

Further, Support is provided to the States to augment the ICU beds at the Medical Colleges, District Hospitals, SDHs, CHCs, etc duly reserving 20% for the Paediatric ICU beds. This is in addition, to the Paediatric ICU beds set up in District Paediatric Units.

Also, the States/UTs are supported for establishing the paediatric Centre of Excellence (CoE) in each State/UT. The CoEs providing Tele-ICUs, mentoring and technical hand holding to district paediatric units. Across the country, 43 Paediatric Centre of Excellence are approved.

Under the scheme, States/UTs are also supported for maintaining buffer stock for essential medicines required for effective COVID management, in addition to provision for required drugs and diagnostics.