

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN WELFARE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2165**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2022

**HOSPITALS EMPANELLED UNDER ECHS**

2165. SHRI LAVU SRI KRISHNA DEVARAYALU:

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 have availed services through ECHS during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the amount spent by the Department of Ex-Servicemen under the scheme during the said period; and
- (d) the hospitals empanelled under ECHS in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI AJAY BHATT)

(a): (i) ECHS became operational on 01<sup>st</sup> April, 2003 for Ex-Servicemen drawing defence pension alongwith their eligible dependents. The Scheme provides cashless and capless medical benefits to approximately 55 lakh beneficiaries. Special sanction of the Government of India has been granted on 07<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 to World War-II Veterans, Emergency Commissioned Officers, Short Service Commissioned Officers and Pre Mature Retirees by waiving off the mandatory conditions of being Ex-Serviceman and drawing pension from Controller of Defence Accounts.

(ii) ECHS provides medical services through a vast network of 427 ECHS Polyclinics in India, 06 in Nepal, 30 ECHS Regional Centres and Empanelled Health Care Organizations.

(iii) Personnel from the following organisations/ categories, apart from the Tri Services, are entitled for ECHS membership:-

- (1) Territorial Army.
- (2) Defence Security Corps.
- (3) Uniformed Indian Coast Guard.
- (4) Military Nursing Service.
- (5) Special Frontier Force.
- (6) Nepal Domiciled Gorkha.
- (7) Whole Time NCC Officers.
- (8) Army Postal Service.
- (9) Assam Rifles
- (10) World War II Veterans, Short Service Commissioned Officers (SSCOs), Emergency Commissioned Officers (ECOs) & Pre Mature Retirees.

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(b): Around 1.65 Crore beneficiaries have availed medical services and 17.65 Lakh beneficiaries have availed dental services through ECHS in the last three years and the current year.

(c): The amount spent by the Department of Ex-Servicemen under the scheme during the last three years is Rs. 14,637.89 Crores and for the current year is Rs. 1768.38 Crores (as on 07 July 2022).

(d): District wise details of Empanelled Health Care Organization (HCOs) in Andhra Pradesh are as under:-

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Empanelled HCOs</b>
1.	Krishna	09
2.	Anantapur	01
3.	Chittoor	04
4.	West Godavari	02
5.	Guntur	09
6.	Prakasham	01
7.	Kurnool	01
8.	Nellore	02
9.	Kadapa	02
10.	Visakhapatnam	13
11.	East Godavari	06
12.	Srikakulam	03
<b>Total</b>		<b>53</b>

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