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

# LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 981 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO POOR PATIENTS

# 981 SRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has rolled out any scheme to provide financial assistance to poor patients;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the district wise details of number of such patients provided financial assistance during each of the last three years and the current year in Uttar Pradesh;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to simplify the process for availing benefits under the said Scheme; and
- (e) the year-wise details of amount allocated for the said scheme and the financial assistance given during each of the last three years and the current year?

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

(a) to (e) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provides financial assistance for treatment of poor patients suffering from identified life threatening diseases and taking treatment in Government hospitals, under the Umbrella Scheme of Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) and Health Minister's Discretionary Grant.

<u>Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN)</u>: Under the Umbrella Scheme of Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, one-time financial assistance upto Rs. 15 lakh is provided to patients belonging to poor families living below threshold poverty lines and suffering from major identified life threatening diseases for medical treatment at Government hospitals.

RAN has three components, namely (i) Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) – to provide financial assistance to patients suffering from life threatening diseases otherthan Cancer, (ii) Health Minister's Cancer Patients Fund (HMCPF) - to provide financial assistance to patients suffering from Cancer; and (iii) Scheme for financial assistance upto Rs. 20 Lakh for patients suffering from specified rare diseases.

Guidelines regarding implementation of Umbrella Scheme of Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi is available at <u>https://main.mohfw.gov.in/Major-Programmes/poor-</u> patientsfinancialassistance/rashtriya-arogya-nidhi.

<u>Health Minister's Discretionary Grant (HMDG)</u>: Under Health Minister's Discretionary Grant (HMDG), financial assistance up to a maximum of Rs. 1.25 lakhs is provided to the poor indigent patients to defray a part of the expenditure on hospitalization/treatment in Government Hospitals for life threatening diseases covered under Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) in cases where free medical facilities are not available. Only those having annual family income up to Rs.1.25 lakhs and below are eligible for financial assistance under the scheme.

Financial assistance for eligible patients is released to treating hospitals. There is no State/UT-wise/District-wise allocation of funds under RAN scheme. Therefore, State-wise/District-wise data is not maintained.

In order to simplify/streamline the functioning of RAN to expedite the approvals, Government has launched these schemes on the National Health Authority IT platform. It enables release of financial assistance to the eligible applicants identified online through the Government's existing database.

Details of funds allocated and released under Umbrella Scheme of RAN and HMDG during the last three years and current year are as under:

(Figure in crores)

| Scheme | 2019-20   |          | 2020-21   |          | 2021-22   |          | 2022-23   |          |
|--------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|
|        | Allocated | Released | Allocated | Released | Allocated | Released | Allocated | Released |

| HMCPF   | 50.00 | 35.67 | 50.00 | 18.10 | 40.00 | 6.83  | 40.00 | 0.78 |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| RAN     | 50.00 | 29.25 | 50.00 | 16.26 | 40.00 | 12.87 | 40.00 | 2.42 |
| Rare    | 50.00 | 1.30  | 77.32 | 10.00 | 25.00 | 3.15  | 25.00 | -    |
| Disease |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |      |
| HMDG    | 6.00  | 3.48  | 6.00  | 1.44  | 5.00  | 1.16  | 5.00  | 0.80 |

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