

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3347
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08TH AUGUST, 2025**

STRATEGIES TO REDUCE HEALTHCARE EXPENSES

3347. THIRU ARUN NEHRU:

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

- (a) whether any national strategies are being implemented in view of the rising healthcare inflation to reduce the cost of hospitalization and essential medical services in both public and private hospitals in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures put in place to regulate pricing of surgeries, diagnostics and ICU services in private hospitals;
- (d) the manner in which the Government is strengthening public hospitals to reduce dependence on costlier private care in the country;
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to expand the coverage and reimbursement rates under Ayushman Bharat and State Health Insurance Schemes; and
- (f) whether there is any roadmap planned by the Government to promote use of generics, local procurement and telemedicine to reduce patient expenses nationwide, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (d): 'Health' being a State subject, the primary responsibility to reduce the cost of hospitalization and essential medical services in both public and private lies with States/UTs.

Nevertheless, the Government of India (GoI) has enacted The Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 (CE Act) and notified Clinical Establishments (Central Government) Rules, 2012 thereunder to provide for registration and regulation of Government (except those of Armed Forces) as well as private hospitals belonging to recognized systems of medicine. Under the CE Act, for registration and continuation, every hospital is, inter-alia, required to display the rates charged for each type of service provided and facilities available in the local as well as in English language at a conspicuous place for benefit of the patients.

Moreover, GoI provides financial and technical support to the States/UTs to strengthen the healthcare systems. Under the Free Drugs & Diagnostics Service Initiative of GoI essential drugs and diagnostics are provided free of cost in the public health facilities.

(e) Under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri - Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY), the Health Benefit Packages (HBP) have been revised and rationalised five times since the launch of the scheme. The latest HBP consists of 1961 procedures across 27 medical specialities.

(f) The GoI has launched eSanjeevani – India’s national telemedicine service to ensure affordable, technology-driven healthcare in rural and underserved urban areas, which is implemented in two variants viz., eSanjeevani AB-AAM (Ayushman Bharat-Ayushman Arogya Mandir) and eSanjeevani OPD.
