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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 921 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND JULY, 2016

RASHTRIYA AROGYA NIDHI

921. SHRI RODMAL NAGAR: SHRIMATI P.K. SREEMATHI TEACHER:

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

(a) the details of total number of beneficiaries under Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi along with the financial assistance provided and utilised under the scheme during the current five year plan;

(b) whether the Government has taken steps to increase the awareness regarding the said scheme, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to implement any medical aid scheme to provide funds to SC/ST patients belonging to poor families;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the steps taken in this regard?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)

(a): As per utilization certificates received as on date, 4305 patients have received assistance under the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN), during the current five year plan. The budgetary allocation and expenditure taking into account interest accrual under RAN during the years 2012-13 to 2016-17 are as follows:

			(Amount in Rs Lakhs)
Year	Budgetary Allocation	Expenditure	No. of patients benefitted*
2012-13	1200.00	1437.33	655
2013-14	1600.00	1593.71	1547
2014-15	2090.00	2382.08	1344
2015-16	2000.00	1827.87	577
2016-17	2200.00	475.89**	182
Total	9090.00	7716.88	4305

*Based on the utilization received from the hospital upto 15.07.2016.

** Expenditure upto 15.07.2016

Allocation of funds under RAN is made to Government hospitals for treatment of selected life threatening diseases of patients eligible for financial assistance. State-wise allocations are not made under RAN.

(b): The various steps taken by the Government to increase awareness about the RAN Scheme, inter-alia, include letters to the State Governments for publicizing the Scheme in their respective States, Press Note in the leading newspapers of the country giving information about the Scheme, uploading all details regarding the Scheme, viz documents required, eligibility criteria, procedure and contact details for queries on Ministry's website, publication of an Appeal in the newspapers disseminating information about the Scheme and circulation of Scheme details in pamphlet format to all State Health Directors/Central Institutions and Hospitals.

(c) & (d): No, currently there is no proposal under consideration of the Ministry. Health is a State Subject, The Union Government supplements the efforts of the State Government in making available health care services and interventions through public health facilities, with focus on the marginalized and vulnerable sections of society. The public health interventions are guided by the extant National Health Policy which seeks to provide health care services towards achieving acceptable standards of good health amongst the country's population irrespective of caste, creed or religion.

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