

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1043
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2026**

STRENGTHENING OF MEDICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

1043. SHRI BAPI HALDAR:

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

- (a) the details of action taken by the Union Government to strengthen healthcare infrastructure in the Mathurapur Parliamentary Constituency in West Bengal especially in the rural and coastal region;
- (b) the number of new healthcare infrastructure/facilities sanctioned, operational and under construction in the said constituency under the National Health Mission (NHM) during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that many rural patients still travel long distances due to the lack of hospital infrastructure in the coastal areas of the said constituency;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to deploy Mobile Health Units or undertaken the upgradation of primary healthcare facilities upgrades under the National Health Mission, if so the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures being taken by the Government to ensure equitable access to essential healthcare services for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and coastal communities?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (e): Under the National Health Mission, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs including West Bengal to strengthen the public healthcare system including strengthening of infrastructure gaps in rural areas including coastal area based on the proposals received from the States/UTs in the form of Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs). Government of India provides approval for the proposal in the form of Record of Proceedings (RoPs) as per norms & available resources.

The details of health projects approved for the State of West Bengal including Mathurapur Parliamentary Constituency are available in public domain at:

In addition to the National Health Mission, Government of India has allocated the following funds for health infrastructure to West Bengal including Mathurapur Parliamentary Constituency:

- **PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM)** envisages increased investments in public health and other health reforms to provide better access to health in rural areas. Administrative approvals have been accorded to the State of West Bengal, for FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26 for an amount of Rs. 1309.29 Cr. For construction/ strengthening of 461 Building-less SHC-AAM, 204 Urban-Ayushman Arogya Mandir (U-AAM) , 23 Integrated Public Health Labs (IPHLs) at District level and 23 Critical Care Blocks (CCBs) at District Hospitals and Medical college level.

Mathurapur Parliamentary Constituency comes under South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal. Under the scheme, One (1) 50 bedded CCB at Diamond Harbour GMCH and one (1) Integrated Public Health Labs (IPHL) at M. R. Bangur SSH, eight (8) Urban-Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (U-AAMs) and forty two (42) Sub-Health Centres- AAMs (SHCs-AAMs) are approved for the district.

- **15th FC Inputs:** Under 15th Finance Commission Health Grants for the State of West Bengal, Rs.4318.62 Crore has been approved for the five year period from FY 2021-22 to FY 2025-26 and Rs.4217.93 Crore has been released during the same period that also includes capital cost for establishment and strengthening of 1551 Building-less SHCs, 146 Building-less PHCs, 23 Building-less CHCs, 341 Block Public Health Units (BPHUs), and 1171 Urban-AAMs.
- The **Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY)** aims at correcting regional imbalances in the availability of affordable tertiary healthcare services and to augment facilities for quality medical education in the country. Under the Scheme approvals has been accorded for Establishment of One new All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Kalyani and upgradation of four Government Medical Colleges/ Institutions (GMCIs) viz. (1)Kolkata Medical College (2) BS Medical College, Bankura (3) Govt. Medical College, Malda and (4) North Bengal Medical College, Siliguri, Darjeeling for the State of West Bengal.

- Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for **‘Establishment of new medical colleges attached with existing district/referral hospitals’** with preference to underserved areas and aspirational districts, where there is no existing Government or private medical college. 11 medical colleges were approved in West Bengal State at Districts Birbhum (Rampur Hat), Cooch Behar, Diamond Harbour, Purulia, North Dinajpur, Barasat, Uluberia, Arambagh, Jhargram, Tamluk and Jalpaiguri. All the 11 approved medical Colleges are functional.

Under National Health Mission (NHM), the Government has taken many steps to ensure equitable access to essential healthcare services by supporting the State Government in providing accessible & affordable healthcare to all including Scheduled Castes (SCs) and coastal communities. Various initiatives carried out under NHM by the Government of India are operationalisation of Ayushman Arogya Mandir, National Ambulance Services, Mobile Medical Units, ASHAs, 24 x 7 Services and First Referral Facilities, Prime Minister's National Dialysis Programme, various activities under Reproductive & Child Health, Anaemia Mukta Bharat (AMB) strategy, TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan and Universal Immunization programme etc.

Mobile Medical Units (MMUs) are also supported under the National Health Mission (NHM) to provide preventive, promotive and curative healthcare services to populations residing in remote, difficult, and inaccessible areas, including coastal areas. Health is a state subject; hence state has the flexibility to station MMUs as per the need of the population. MMUs provide a comprehensive package of primary healthcare services free of cost at the point of service, along with referral services. As on 31st December 31st, 2025, a total of 49 MMUs are functional across the State of West Bengal. (Source: NHM-MIS Report, 31st December, 2025).

As per information provided by West Bengal, Mobile Medical Boat are presently operational at four riverine blocks under Kakdwip sub-division, Namkhana, Patharpratima and Sagar blocks. Further, (8) eight MMU vehicles with medical team conducting medical camps in under-served and difficult areas @ 6 days/week have already been initiated.
