

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1852
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19th DECEMBER, 2023**

INCREASING BURDEN OF HEALTH EXPENSES

1852. SHRI HARBHAJAN SINGH:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of increasing burden of health expenses over the period of time;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken or is considering any measure to increase public investment in health sector so that individual burdens are reduced;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL)**

(a) to (d):- As per the available National Health Accounts (NHA) Estimates for India, the details of Total Health Expenditure (THE), Government Health Expenditure (GHE) and Out of Pocket Expenditure (OOPE) are as under:

Indicator	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
THE (Rs. in crore)	4,83,259	5,28,484	5,81,023	5,66,644	5,96,440	6,55,822
GHE (Rs. in crore)	1,39,949	1,61,863	1,88,010	2,31,104	2,42,219	2,71,544
OOPE (Rs. in crore)	3,02,425	3,20,211	3,40,196	2,76,532	2,87,573	3,08,727

The THE has increased 35.71% during the period 2014-15 to 2019-20 whereas GHE has increased 94.03% during 2014-15 to 2019-20. During the same period, OOPE as percentage of THE has declined from 62.6% to 47.1%.

Department of Health and Family Welfare (DoHFW) has been making consistent efforts to increase public health spending. The budget allocation for DoHFW has increased by 82% from Rs. 47,353 crore in 2017-18 (BE) to Rs. 86,175 crore in 2023-24 (BE). The 15th Finance Commission has provided Rs. 70,051 crore Grants for health through the Local Government.

The Government has launched four mission mode projects, namely PM-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM), Ayushman Arogya Mandir (erstwhile AB-HWCs), Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) and Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM). Recently, Government has launched Ayushman Bhav campaign. The 'Ayushman Bhav' campaign, is a comprehensive nationwide healthcare initiative that aims to provide saturation coverage of healthcare services, reaching every village and town in the country. This groundbreaking initiative builds upon the success of the Ayushman Bharat program and signifies a paradigm shift in healthcare services.

Other notable initiatives are to provide financial and technical support to States/UTs under National Health Mission (NHM), setting up of new AIIMS, upgrading of Government medical colleges under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY), support to States/UTs for setting up of new medical colleges as well as for increasing UG and PG medical seats, provision of free drugs and free diagnostic facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHC)/ Community Health Centres (CHC) and district hospital level, substantial increase in availability of government ambulances etc.

Quality generic medicines are made available at affordable prices to all under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) in collaboration with the State Governments. Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) Pharmacy stores have been set up in some hospitals/institutions.

The Government has launched a "National Tele Mental Health Programme" on 10th October, 2022, to further improve access to quality mental health counselling and care services in the country. NIMHANS, Bengaluru is the National Apex Centre, co-ordinating activities of Tele MANAS across India.
