

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1300
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2024**

SCHEME FOR FINANCING AMBULANCE SERVICE

**1300. SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR;
SHRI SELVAM G.;**

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing any scheme for financing ambulance services under under National Health Mission and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of general and critical care ambulances provided to Tamil Nadu under National Health Mission during each of the last three years; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to meet the shortage of ambulance service in the country in rural areas?

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

(a) The Government is implementing a scheme for financing ambulance service under the National Health Mission (NHM). The funding is provided to the States for Advanced Life Support (ALS) and Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulances on the basis of population norms, i.e. one ambulance each for a population of 5 Lakh and 1 Lakh, respectively. The annual Programme Implementation Plan appraisals for the National Ambulance Service are done under NHM based on State proposals. The States have the flexibility to propose the budget as per their need.

(b) As per the State PIP Proposal, Financial & Technical Support is provided under NHM to the State for general care (BLS) and critical care (ALS) Ambulances. The number of ambulances for which financial support is provided to Tamil Nadu as operational cost during each financial year for last three years are as follows:

Year	No. of ALS Ambulances	No. of BLS Ambulances
2020-21	62	880
2021-22	121	1032
2022-23	300	1218

(c) Public Health and Hospital is a State Subject, hence, the primary responsibility for strengthening of healthcare system lies with respective State/UT Governments. However, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, under National Health Mission, supports the National Ambulance Services and provides financial and technical support to the States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare systems, based on the proposals received from them in the form of Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) within their overall resource envelope. Further, to augment the fleet of ambulances due to the surge created by the COVID -19 pandemic, provision for augmentation for states was provided under Emergency Covid Response Package II (ECRP II) to meet the additional requirement of patient transport.
