

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1974
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02ND AUGUST, 2024**

HEALTH EXPENDITURE

1974. SHRI RAMASAHAYAM RAGHURAM REDDY:

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

- (a) the details of the health spendings as a percentage of GDP during the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government has set any target to increase this percentage;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any steps towards increasing health spendings especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): As per the National Health Policy, 2017, public investment in health is envisioned to reach 2.5% of GDP by 2025. As per latest economic survey 2023-24, the Government Health Expenditure (GHE) for the last three years i.e. 2021-22, 2022-23 (RE) & 2023-24 (BE) is 1.9% of GDP. Department of Health and Family Welfare (DoHFW) has made efforts to increase allocation in health budget. The budget allocation for DoHFW has increased by 85% from Rs. 47,353 crore in 2017-18 (BE) to Rs. 87,657 crore in 2024-25 (BE). The 15th Finance Commission has also provided Rs. 70,051 crore Grants for health through the Local Government. Further, DoHFW has requested States to prioritize allocation to health sector and enhance their health budgets at least by 8% to reach the goal as envisaged.

(d) and (e) For general public, in order to better prepare against future pandemics/public health emergencies in the country, Union Ministry of Health provides requisite support to States/UTs to enhance their capabilities.

The 'India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness package' of Rs 15,000 crore was approved by the Government in April 2020 wherein States/UTs were provided required technical and financial assistance for strengthening of their healthcare system for management of the COVID-19 Public Health Challenge. In addition, 'India COVID-19 Emergency Response & Health System Preparedness Package: Phase-II' was

also approved by the Cabinet with Rs 23,123 crore (with Rs. 15,000 crore as Central Component & Rs 8,123 crore as State component). Further, the Central Government also implemented “National COVID India's National COVID-19 Vaccination Programme” to provide free vaccination to all adult citizens during the FY 2021-22 for an expenditure of about 35,000 crore.

With the long-term goal to better prepare country against public health emergencies, Pradhan Mantri - Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) has been launched to enhance the capacity of primary, secondary and tertiary health care facilities and institutes for identifying and managing any new and emerging diseases.
