

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:260  
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2001  
KIDNEY AND HEART DISEASE  
RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

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

- (a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to ascertain the number of heart and kidney patients in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have any scheme to extend financial assistance to poor patients affected by these ailments; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 260 FOR 14.3.2001

(a) and (b): There is no nationwide data collected on the number of people suffering from kidney and heart diseases in India. However, a questionnaire survey conducted by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in some hospitals revealed that about 2 lakh chronic kidney failure patients are being treated in various medical colleges and other hospitals annually in India. As a result of various surveys carried out in the country during the past decade, it is estimated that there is about 40 million cases of Cardio Vascular diseases in India.

(c)&(d): Financial assistance upto Rs.20,000/- in each case is provided to poor and indigent patients for undergoing specialised treatment/operation out of the Health Minister's Discretionary Grant. The Illness Assistance Fund at the State/Union Territory level releases financial assistance to patients living in their respective States/UT upto Rs.1.5 lakhs in an individual case. Under the National Illness assistance Fund, an advance of Rs.10 to 30 lakhs has been kept with the Medical Superintendents of various Government hospitals for providing financial assistance to patients living below poverty line.