

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3256
ANSWERED ON:04.02.2004
HEALTH CARE FACILITIES IN NORTH-EAST REGION
RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

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

- (a) whether the Health Care system in North-Eastern States is in jeopardy resulting in decrease in average age as reported in Daily Hindi Hindustan dated January 22, 2004;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof alongwith the response of the Union Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Union Government to upgrade the health care facilities in these States?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA)

(a) to (c) Provision of Health Care facilities in the States is the primary responsibility of the respective State Governments. The Government of India, however, is extending support to the Health Care systems of various State Governments, including North-Eastern States. 10% of the budget outlay of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is earmarked exclusively for North-Eastern States, for implementing various disease control programmes (including HIV/AIDS, Malaria, TB, Drug-de-addiction etc.) and for augmenting health care infrastructure in the North-Eastern States. With a view to enhance provision of specialized health care facilities for the North-Eastern region under the Prime Minister's package for North-Eastern States, North-Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Science (NEIGRIHMS) is being set up at Shillong with 500 bedded capacity with 35 speciality/superspeciality treatment facilities. This is likely to be completed by 2005. Apart from this, from non-lapsable pool, funds are provided by Department of North-Eastern Region (DONER) for various developmental activities, which also includes strengthening and upgradation of health care systems