

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5914
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2005
HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS
Satpathy Shri Tathagata;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) whether the focus of the Tenth Five Year Plan has been to provide well planned and organised primary, secondary and tertiary Health care services in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether no efforts have been made to provide well planned and organised primary, secondary and tertiary health care services in rural areas;
- (d) if so, whether the Union Government had provided any central assistance to States during the last three years;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (f) if not, the reasons for not providing primary, secondary and tertiary health care to the people particularly in the rural areas; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Union Government in coordination with the State Government to provide primary health care facilities in the rural and backward areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir, the 10th Plan document inter-alia focuses on:-

(i) providing essential primary health care, emergency life saving services, services under the National Disease Control Programmes and the National Family Welfare Programme totally free of cost to all individuals and essential health care service to people below poverty line based on their need and not on their ability to pay for the services through primary, secondary and tertiary health care institutions, manned by qualified and adequate medical and paramedical personnel; and

(ii) improvement in the quality of care at all levels and settings by evolving and implementing a whole range of comprehensive norms for service delivery, prescribing minimum requirements of qualified staff, conditions for carrying out specialized interventions and a set of established procedures for quality assurance at primary, secondary and tertiary levels.

(c) to (g) No sir, efforts are being made to provide well planned and organized healthcare facilities in the rural areas. The National Rural Health Mission launched in April, 2005 is a focused effort in this direction which has as its main goal improving the availability of and access to quality healthcare by people especially for those residing in the rural areas, the poor women and children. Assistance from the Centre will flow under the Mission from the current year i.e. 2005-06.