

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:612
ANSWERED ON:09.07.2004
INSURANCE SCHEME FOR BPL
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has introduced any new Insurance Scheme for the people living below poverty line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the criteria adopted to identify the people living below poverty line alongwith number of such people in the country, State-wise;
- (d) the total amount likely to be paid by the Union Government and the State Government as premium annually;
- (e) whether the age group suggested earlier by Ministry of Finance has been changed now; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the number of persons likely to be benefited by this policy?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM)

(a)&(b): A community based Universal Health Insurance Scheme is being implemented by the four public sector general insurance companies w.e.i. 14.7.2003 for the poorer sections of the society including BPL families. The scheme provide for reimbursement of hospitalization expenses upto Rs.30,000/- which can be availed individually or collectively by the members of the family, personal accident cover of Rs.25,000/- for death of earning head of

family and compensation to loss of earnings of earning member @ Rs.50/- per day upto a maximum of 15 days. The premium under the scheme is Rs.365/-per annum for individual, Rs.548/- per annum for family of 5 members including 3 children and Rs.730/- per annum for family of 7 members (including 3 children and dependent parents). In order to make the scheme affordable, Govt. provides a premium subsidy of Rs.100/- per BPL family.

(c): The criteria adopted by the Planning Commission to determine the people living below poverty line is based on per capita consumption expenditure @ Rs.49.09 per month in rural areas and Rs.56.64 per month in urban areas at 1973-74 prices at national level corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 kcal in rural areas and 2100 kcal in urban areas. The number of persons living below poverty line in the country in the year 1999-2000 was estimated to be 260.3 million. The State-wise figures are given in Annexure.

(d): For the Universal Health Insurance Scheme, the Central Government has released an amount of Rs.1.80 crore to the four public sector general insurance companies as premium subsidy for BPL families for the year 2003-04. The State-Governments do not have any share under the scheme.

(e): No Sir.

(f): The scheme has covered 4,16,688 families including 9252 BPL families as on 31.3.2004.