

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3141
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2007
HEALTH FACILITY TO POOR PATIENTS
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken by innovative steps to help poor patients to get complete healthcare in Government hospitals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any mechanism in the Government-aided hospitals to treat the poor and the needy patients free of cost; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a)to(d): Health & Family Welfare services are available to all citizens of the country in Public Health facilities. These services are completely free of cost at all levels for persons who are below the Poverty line.

The Public Health services at Primary care level comprises 144988 Sub centres, 22669 Primary Health Centres and 3910 Community health Centres. For secondary care there are District hospitals and at still higher level medical college hospitals and other tertiary care institutions are available.

The Government has operationalised the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable primary health care facilities, especially, to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population. The NRHM has been operationalized throughout the country including below poverty line people, with special focus on 18 states which includes 8 Empowered Action Group States (Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Orissa and Rajasthan), 8 North-East States, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir.