

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:811
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2011
HEALTHCARE FACILITIES FOR BPL FAMILIES
Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh

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

- (a) whether the Government has established Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi for healthcare facilities for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the number of BPL families have received treatment under Centrally sponsored scheme during the last three years and current year, State-wise particularly in the State of Orissa;
- (d) whether the Government is planning to provide additional Central assistance for healthcare for BPL families in Orissa;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRVEDI)

(a): The Government of India has created Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) in 1997 to provide financial assistance to the patients, living below poverty line (BPL), who are suffering from major life threatening diseases, to receive medical treatment in Government hospitals.

(b): Under the scheme of Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, the Central Government also provides Grant in Aid to the States / Union Territories with legislature for State Illness Assistance Funds set up by them to the extent of 50 % of their contribution to the State Funds.

The contribution of the Central Government to the State Fund is subject to a maximum of Rs.5.00 crore to States with larger number and percentage of population below the poverty line and maximum of Rs.2 crore to other States & UTs with legislatures, whichever is less, in a year subject to overall availability of resources.

(c): Information regarding the number of BPL patients who have been provided with financial assistance directly from the Central fund(Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi) is annexed.

(d) to (f): Govt. of Orissa has not yet set up the State Illness Assistance Fund. It has been requested to set up the Fund expeditiously.