

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4118

ANSWERED ON:26.08.2011

FREE/AFFORDABLE TREATMENT FOR BPL PATIENTS

Dome Dr. Ram Chandra;Mishra Shri Mahabal ;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Vardhan Shri Harsh

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide free medical care to the people living below poverty line through Smart Card;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has compiled the BPL list for the purpose;
- (c) if so, the number of beneficiaries estimated to be covered under the scheme, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the action taken/proposed by the Government for providing free/ affordable treatment to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) patients in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) The Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana was launched on 01.10.2007 to provide smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30000/- per annum per family to BPL families (a unit of five) in the unorganized sector on family floater basis. The scheme became operational from 01.04.2008. The scheme is presently being implemented in 25 States/Union territories and more than 2.4 crore BPL families have been covered under the scheme.

(b) & (c) The number of beneficiaries estimated to be covered under the scheme, State-wise as per Planning Commission's Estimates for BPL 2002 is annexed.

(d) The same as in (a) above.