

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4130
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2011
NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH MISSION
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the funds provided by the Government for the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) Scheme alongwith its utilisation during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to utilise the unutilised funds of NRHM Scheme for the remuneration/incentives to Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) workers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the fixed amount paid to the ASHA workers on the basis of their performance;
- (d) whether Steering Committee of NRHM proposes to provide Rs. 500/- per month as honorarium to ASHA workers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (f) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for the welfare of the ASHA workers and the proper utilization of the funds provided under the NRHM Scheme?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a) The details of funds Allocated, Released and utilized by the States under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) during the financial year 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 are as follows:

Year	Funds allocated by Govt. of India (Rs. in crores)	Funds Released (Rs. in crores)	Funds utilized (Rs. in crores)
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2008-09	10,192.23	9625.09	10,565.10
2009-10	11,581.31	11,470.18	13,226.01
2010-11	12,923.26	12,871.07	16,044.47
2011-12	14,263.72	4,094.13#	

Funds released during 2011-12 are up to 30.06.2011. Funds allocated and released are not inclusive of supply of commodities, IEC, RCH Drugs and Equipment etc.

Funds utilized include allocation by Government of India, State's contribution and uncommitted unspent balances relating to earlier year. Expenditure Figures for 2009-10 and 2010-11 are provisional.

- (b) The unutilised funds under NRHM forms part of the resource envelope based on which annual Programme Implementation Plan is decided and activities approved for implementation under NRHM.
- (c) Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) are not paid any fixed monthly remuneration. They are paid performance based incentives for healthcare related activities undertaken by them.
- (d) & (e) The Mission Steering Group in its 5th meeting held on 28.01.2009 had considered in favour of fixed remuneration of Rs. 500/- per month subject to approval by Ministry of Finance. That was however not agreed to by the Ministry of Finance. The proposal of payment of fixed monthly honorarium in addition to performance linked incentive to ASHAs was again discussed in detail in the 7th meeting of the Mission Steering Group (MSG) under NRHM held on 21.06.2011 and it was decided to continue with the existing system of performance based incentives.
- (f) Other than the performance based incentives, the ASHAs are also compensated for attending their training, monthly reviews and other meetings. Some States have also provided uniforms, bicycles, mobile phones connectivity etc. to ASHAs.

The Ministry regularly monitors the utilization of funds through analysis of quarterly Financial Management Reports and annual statutory Audit Reports and concurrent audits conducted by the State. It also monitors the implementation of NRHM through annual Common Review Mission (CRM), Joint Review Mission (JRM) and review meetings. Teams are also sent periodically to States to review the management of funds under the Mission. The reports are shared with the States for taking corrective measures.