

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5028
ANSWERED ON:02.09.2011
RAJIV AAROgyASRI SCHEME
Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami

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

- (a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought financial assistance for their Rajiv Aarogyasri Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) : Yes. The State Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a proposal to the Cabinet Secretariat for financial assistance of Rs. 307 crore for implementation of the Rajiv Aarogyasri Health Insurance Scheme (RAS) for the benefit of BPL families.

In the last meeting of the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) held on 2nd November 2010, the issue was discussed wherein Planning Commission informed that the Aarogyasri Scheme needs a comprehensive review and evaluation by an independent organisation. CoS noted that Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) has initiated a critical assessment of existing Health Insurance Models in India including RAS, and decided that the State Government may send a copy of the study conducted by PHFI to the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Planning Commission under intimation to the Cabinet Secretariat. The report is still awaited.

This Ministry is of the view that since Aarogyasri Scheme deals with tertiary care and is not in consonance with the objectives of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), which focuses on primary and secondary health care, the funding would not be possible from the NRHM. However, this Ministry does not have any objection to the scheme if the expenditure on it is met through State Govt.'s own resources.