

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2694

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2011

GDP FOR HEALTH SECTOR

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

- (a) the funds allocated and spent on health sector in the country as compared to other sectors during each of the last three years and the current year so far;
- (b) whether percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) spending on health sector is low as compared to developed countries in the world;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the High Level Expert Group on Universal Health Coverage and the Indian Medical Association (IMA) have urged to increase the Government spending on health; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the follow up action taken/proposed to increase Government spending on health and medical sector during the Twelfth Five Year Plan?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

- (a): As per Economic Survey 2010-11, the public funds spent on health sector, as compared with other social sectors in the country, during 2008-09, 2009-10 (RE) and allocation for 2010-11(BE) is given is annexed.
- (b) & (c): According to World Health Statistics-2011 published by World Health Organization (WHO), the percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) spending on health sector for India in 2008 is 4.2%, as compared to expenditure on health in respect of some select developed countries, e.g. Germany 10.5%, France 11.2%, United Kingdom 8.7% and Japan 8.3% in 2008.

The General Government expenditure on health in 2008 is 32.4 percent of total expenditure on health. The low public expenditure on health in India is inter-alia due to low tax to GDP ratio.
- (d): Yes, the High Level Expert Group (HLEG) on Universal Health Coverage and the Indian Medical Association (IMA) have urged to increase the Government spending on health. HLEG has recommended increasing public spending on health from around 1.2 % of GDP to at least 2.5% by the end of the 12th Plan and to at least 3% of GDP by 2022. Indian Medical Association (IMA) has estimated that the total public health spending by health departments at Centre and State level should be 3% of GDP.
- (e): As per the Planning Commission document- Faster, Sustainable and More Inclusive Growth: An Approach to the 12th Five Year Plan (draft)", the aim should be to raise the total health expenditure to 2.5% of GDP by the end of the Twelfth Plan.