

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4777

ANSWERED ON:04.05.2012

UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE ESSENTIAL HEALTH PACKAGE

Bajwa Shri Partap Singh;Natarajan Shri P.R.;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami;Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala ;Sivasami Shri C.

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

- (a) the details of the proposed cashless and portable Universal Health Coverage (UHC) to be introduced by the Union and State Governments in the States as a pilot project;
- (b) the modalities worked out by the Union and State Governments for its implementation along with the criteria adopted to identify the districts for the purpose;
- (c) whether a high level expert group on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) set up by the Planning Commission has been asked to prepare and provide Essential Health Package (EHP) covering out-patient and in-patient healthcare as an entitlement to every member of the family;
- (d) if so, the plan chalked out by the Government for implementation of the above project; and
- (e) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on every member of the family in the country and the time by which the whole country is likely to be covered under UHC?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

- (a)&(b): No Decision in this regard has so far been taken by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- (c) The terms of reference of the High Level Expert Group(HLEG) on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) constituted by the Planning Commission are as under:
  - (i) develop a blue print and investment plan for meeting the human resource requirements to achieve health for all by 2020
  - (ii) rework the physical and financial norms needed to ensure quality, universal reach and access of healthcare services, particularly in under-served areas and to indicate the relative role of private and public service providers in this context .
  - (iii) suggest critical management reforms in order to improve efficiency, effectiveness and accountability of the health delivery system.
  - (iv) develop guidelines for the constructive participation of communities, local elected bodies, NGOs, the private for profit and not-for-profit sector in the healthcare.
  - (v) propose reforms in policies related to the production, import, pricing, distribution and regulation of essential drugs, vaccines and other essential healthcare related items for enhancing their availability and reducing cost to consumer.
  - (vi) explore the role of health insurance system that offers universal access to health services with high subsidy for the poor and a scope for building up additional levels of protection on a payment basis.
- (d) No decision has been taken so far in this regard.
- (e) The question does not arise.