

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1705
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2012
UNIVERSAL QUALITY HEALTH CARE
Das Gupta Shri Gurudas;Lingam Shri P.

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether high level expert group appointed by the Planning Commission on health care has pointed out the dangers of the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) and has suggested a universal quality health care free cost to all; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the Government's decision in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) & (b): High Level expert group constituted by Planning Commission has in its report recommended among others, that following:

Recommendation 3.1.9: Do not use insurance companies or any other independent agents to purchase health care services on behalf of the government.

Recommendation 3.1.10: Purchases of all health care services under the UHC system should be undertaken either directly by the Central and state governments through their Departments of Health or by quasi-governmental autonomous agencies established for the purpose.

Recommendation 3.1.11: All government funded insurance schemes should, over time, be integrated with the UHC system. All health insurance cards should, in due course, be replaced by National Health Entitlement Cards. The technical and other capacities developed by the Ministry of Labour for the RSBY should be leveraged as the core of UHC operations – and transferred to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

The 12th Five Year Plan is under preparation and the decision of the Government on the subject will be clear after due 12th Plan has received the necessary approvals.