

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:418  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2012  
UNIFORM HEALTH AND MEDICAL SYSTEM  
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

- (a) whether the economically weaker sections in the country are facing difficulties due to absence of uniform health and medical system in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether huge imbalance is exists in this field due to increasing treatment costs and commercialization of medical profession; and
- (d) if so, the efforts made by the Government to provide uniform health and medical service to all without any discrimination between the rich and the poor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ABU HASEM KHAN CHOUDHURY)

- (a) & (b) Economically weaker sections in the country have poor health indicators and face difficulty in meeting health care expenditure. However, it is difficult to attribute it to absence of uniform health and medical system.
- (c) Cost of treatment has increased significantly in private as well as public sector over the last fifteen years, but the increase is more in the private sector where the costs have doubled.
- (d) Programmes of the Government such as family planning, maternal and child health programmes, disease control programmes such as Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) and National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) provide health and medical services to all without any discrimination between the rich and the poor. Further, under the Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), a conditional cash transfer scheme to encourage institutional delivery, pregnant women from all sections of the population are eligible for benefits regardless of economic status or other exclusion criteria in the low performing States. Similarly, under the Janani Shisu Suraksha Kariqram (JSSK) free institutional care at the time of delivery is provided to all pregnant women who deliver in public health facilities without any discrimination between the rich or poor. Same is the case with the emergency and patient transport system supported under the NRHM where services are provided to all without any discrimination between the rich or poor.