

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:975  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013  
MEDICARE SERVICES FOR EX SERVICEMEN  
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to take substantial measures for upgradation of the quality of medicare provided to the Ex-servicemen and their dependents;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to open polyclinics including mobile polyclinics in each district of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these polyclinics are likely to be made operational in the country, including Gujarat?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

- (a) Yes, Madam.
- (b) For upgradation of the quality of medicare services, following measures have been taken by the Government.
  - (i) The coverage of Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) has been expanded by sanctioning additional 199 ECHS Polyclinics.
  - (ii) The contractual remuneration of staff of ECHS Polyclinics has been enhanced w.e.f. 1.4.2013 which will enable the Scheme to attract and retain quality staff.
  - (iii) On-line computerized billing system has been sanctioned by the Government for speedy disposal of hospital bills so as to retain reputed empanelled hospitals for offering quality medicare to ECHS beneficiaries.
- (c) & (d):No, Madam. The polyclinics are sanctioned based on prescribed norms of concentration of Ex-Servicemen in a given area.