

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:372

ANSWERED ON:22.03.2013

SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMMES

Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B. ;Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

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

- (a) the details of the School Health Programmes being implemented by the Government;
- (b) the details of the funds allocated/released and utilized for this purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the guidelines for the School Health Programme have been modified by the Government recently;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the mechanism put in place to monitor and evaluate the programmes?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.372 FOR 22ND MARCH, 2013

(a) & (b) School Health programme being implemented under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) entails screening for disease, deficiency and disability among children of 6- 18 years, enrolled in Government and Government aided schools. The programme also includes referral of screened children to secondary and tertiary health care facilities, whenever required. The details of funds allocated and released during the last three years State/UTwise are annexed.

(c)to(e) Recently under National Rural Health Mission, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) initiative has been launched that covers children at birth, in anganwadis and in government and government aided schools. The purpose of Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram is to improve survival, development and quality of life of children in the age group of 0 to 18 years through early detection of Defects at birth, Diseases, Deficiencies, Development Delays including Disability and follow-up management. The initiative entails screening of children through dedicated mobile health teams placed in every block comprising of trained doctors and paramedics. The newborns will be screened for birth defects in health facilities where deliveries take place by health personnel and during the home visits by ASHAs and ANMs. An estimated 27 crore children in the age group of 0 to 18 years are expected to be covered in a phased manner. RBSK covers 30 identified common health conditions prevalent in children for early detection and free intervention and treatment. There is also a provision for District Early Intervention Centres at the district level for management of cases referred from the blocks and further referral upto tertiary level health facilities, in case of need. The School Health Programme has thus been subsumed under a more comprehensive and universal initiative.

A standardized quarterly reporting format is put in place for monitoring the progress of the programme. Besides this, the services provided to school children are also reviewed during the field visits by Central teams.