

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:453

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2014

CGHS PLASTIC CARDS

Dhruvanarayana Shri Rangaswamy;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) The rationale behind revalidation of Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) plastic cards every five years and the expenditure incurred therein during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) Whether a large number of CGHS cards of the Central Government and autonomous bodies employees have not been revalidated for a long time;
- (c) If so, the details thereof indicating the total number of applications received by CGHS authorities for revalidation and the number of applications lying pending along with the reasons for pendency during each of the last two years and the current year, department-wise;
- (d) The action taken/being taken by the Government to clear the pendency at the earliest; and
- (e) Whether the Government proposes to issue CGHS cards to the eneficiaries for the entire service period, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 453 FOR 8th AUGUST, 2014

The scheme of issuing plastic CGHS cards was started in 2008. The validity of these cards was fixed for five years as pay of serving employees may change resulting into change in the entitlement of CGHS facilities. Also, the employees are liable to be transferred and they may also change their place of residence to non-CGHS area and thereby losing entitlement for CGHS facility.

There is no proposal to issue CGHS Cards to serving employees for the entire service period. However, since 2011, plastic cards having life time validity are being issued to the pensioners who have paid 10 years contribution.

The expenditure incurred on plastic cards for the last 3 years and the current year is as under:

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Payment Made In Rupees
1	2011-12	1969524/-
2	2012-13	4157990/- (for 2 years)
3	2013-14	
4	2014-15 till July 14	2001160/-

Issue of plastic cards were started in the latter part of 2008 and a large number of cards were issued in the initial stages. Those cards have come for renewal, resulting into some pendency in issuing of renewed CGHS plastic cards.

Details of pendency along with receipt of applications for renewal of cards are as under-

Sl. No.	YEAR	RECEIVED	PRINTED	PENDING APPLICATION
1	2013-14	37011	25776	11235
2	2014-15	17903	9252	8651
				(upto July)

(The record of department wise pendency is not maintained as the CGHS plastic cards are issued against a unique Beneficiary Number)

Efforts are being made to issue renewed CGHS Plastic Cards within a short period. Number of Data Entry Operators and other staff has been increased to clear the backlog as soon as possible. The concerned staff is also deployed beyond normal working hours. One officer has been specifically engaged to oversee this activity. The validity of existing CGHS plastic cards has been extended by six months.

