

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1336  
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2014  
RASHTRIYA BAL SWASTHYA KARYAKRAM  
Shanavas Shri M. I.;Wanaga Shri Chintaman Navsha

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

- (a) whether a new child health screening and early intervention service viz. Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) has been recently launched in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features of the programme;
- (c) the fund allocated/released/utilised by the States since the launch of the said programme till date, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the mechanism put in place by the Government for regular monitoring of the programme to ascertain its efficacy including achievements of the goals set thereunder?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): Yes. Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) was launched in February, 2013 under National Rural Health Mission. This initiative aims to screen and manage children from birth to 18 years of age for Defects at Birth, Deficiencies, Diseases and Developmental Delays including disabilities. Around 27 crore children would be covered in a phased manner.

Under this initiative, all newborns delivered at public health facilities and homes are screened for birth defects by health personnel and ASHA. The children in the age group of six weeks to six years include those attending Anganwadi centres and children in the age group of 6 years to 18 years enrolled in government and government aided schools are screened by dedicated Mobile Block Health Teams consisting of two AYUSH doctors (one male and one female), one ANM and one pharmacist. The children identified with any health condition are then referred to an appropriate health facility for further management and linking with tertiary level institutions. The establishment of District Early Intervention Centre (DEIC) is also one of the components of the RBSK.

During the financial year 2013-14 a total of Rs. 1176.37 crore have been allocated for implementation of RBSK programme. State/UT-wise budget allocated for the programme during the financial year 2013-14 is placed at Annexure.

The programme is monitored through the Health Management Information System of NHM and periodic visits to the states by central and state level teams.