

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2308
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2018**

NATIONAL HEALTH STACK

2308. SHRI KUNMWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:

SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:

SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

Will the MINISTER OF PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases and climbing out-of-pocket costs on healthcare is becoming difficult for most households and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Union Government has proposed National Health Stack (NHS) for all citizens of the country in order to streamline the health information and facilitate effective management of the same;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the NHS will significantly bring down the costs of health protection, converge disparate systems to ensure a cashless and seamlessly integrated experience for the poorest beneficiaries; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the NHS is likely to be created and the extent to which it will promote wellness across the population?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS**

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a): Yes Madam. As per the report on “India: Health of the Nation’s States- The India State –Level Disease Burden Initiative” published by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the disease burden trends in States of India show an increase in the contribution of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) from 30% of total disease burden in 1990 to 55% in 2016.

Though public health is a State subject, Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments. Under National Health Mission Free Drugs and Free Diagnostics initiative, essential drugs and diagnostics are provided free of cost in public health facilities. The out of pocket expenditure as percent of the total health expenditure has decreased over the years from 69.4% in 2004-05 to 62.6% in 2014-15 (source: National Health Accounts, 2014-15, Ministry of Health & Family welfare).

(b) & (c): Yes, Madam. The Strategy and Approach paper on the National Health Stack which is a blueprint for India's futuristic digital health system has been prepared by NITI Aayog. The National Health Stack will facilitate collection of comprehensive healthcare data, manage master health data of the nation across the country and create a framework to help India to move towards electronic patient health record.

(d) & (e): With the adoption of the technology approach as envisaged in National Health Stack , the Government's policies on health and health protection can achieve Continuum of Care as the Stack supports information flow across primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare, can focus from illness to wellness to drive down future cost of health protection, enable cashless care to ensure financial protection to the poor, timely payments on scientific package rates to service providers, a strong lever to participate in government-funded healthcare programs, robust fraud detection to prevent funds leakage, improved policy making through access to timely reporting on utilization and measurement of impact across health initiatives and enhanced trust and accountability through non-repudiable transaction audit trails.

This Strategy and Approach paper on NHS is currently placed on the official website of NITI (http://www.niti.gov.in/writereaddata/files/document_publication/NHS-Strategy-and-Approach-Document-for-consultation.pdf) for seeking views of public, experts and other stakeholders.
