

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:927
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2005
FUNDS FOR HEART PATIENTS
Gandhi Smt. Maneka

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

- (a) whether the funds released by the Government to heart patients living below the poverty line amount to a maximum of Rs. Thirty thousand ;
- (b) if so, whether the cost of a heart operation these days is over Rs. one Lakh; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken/ proposed to be taken to increase the amount?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c) Under the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi scheme there is no upper limit for giving financial assistance to patients living below the poverty line who are suffering from various life-threatening diseases, including heart ailments. The cost of procedures for the treatment of heart diseases depends on the nature of the heart ailment. The question of increasing the limit of financial assistance in such cases, therefore, does not arise.