

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2879
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2006
UNUTILISATION OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE IN HEALTH SECTOR
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

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

- (a) the details of foreign assistance received in health sector that remain unutilized during each of the last three years;
- (b) the reasons for non-utilization of such assistance;
- (c) whether the Government has paid commitment charges for non-utilization of such assistance;
- (d) if so, the details of commitment charges paid during each of the last three years; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to utilize such foreign assistance as committed at the time of raising such foreign assistance?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) In the Health Sector, foreign assistance flows in the form of grants-in-aid and as loan. This external assistance gets reflected through the domestic budget and assistance received has by and large been fully utilized though in some cases the project period of implementation has been extended.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected.

(e) A number of mechanisms have been evolved to effectively utilize the external assistance being received under the different programmes/ schemes in the Health Sector. Detailed plans are drawn up even while formulating the programme of the activities to be undertaken, the implementing agencies concerned, the guidelines for implementation of the projects, maintenance of accounts and timely submission of reports on expenditure incurred. Reviews are also undertaken for assessing the programme against the goals envisaged. Decentralization of financial powers have also been given wherever necessary. Programme Management Units have also been established in select States having weak health indicators to improve implementation of programmes and effective utilization of funds including foreign assistance.