

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1093
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2006
WORLD BANK ASSISTANCE TO HEALTH PROJECTS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Bank has assured financial assistance to certain health projects in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the total quantum of financial assistance likely to be given;
- (c) whether the Government has given any commitment regarding having a transparent procurement process conforming to the highest standards;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the said assistance would be given?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The World Bank and the Government of India have recently signed three Credit Agreements in the Health Sector on 16.10.2006. The three Agreements are for:

- (i) The Reproductive and Child Health Project II (RCH-II) for US \$ 360 million.
- (ii) Second National Tuberculosis Control Project (TB-II) for US \$ 170 million and
- (iii) Karnataka Health System Development and Reform Project for US \$ 141.83 million.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): The Government of India and the World Bank have agreed to a common "Governance and Accountability Action Plan (GAAP)" to ensure competition and transparency in the procurement and timely delivery of quality goods and services under the health services related projects co-financed by the World Bank. The GAAP in essence provides guidelines for various methods of procurement agreed along with steps and thresholds to be followed under each method of procurement, i.e. International Competitive Bidding (ICB), National Competitive Bidding (NCB), Shopping, Director Contracting (DC) for goods and works and Hiring of Consultant Services.

(e): The World Bank assistance will be released on the basis of claims of reimbursement of project expenses as submitted by the Government of India from time to time consequent to the signing of the three Credit Agreements on 16.10.2006.