

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:680
ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009
HEALTH FACILITY TO THE POOR
Siricilla Shri Rajaiah

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

- (a) whether the Government provides healthcare facilities to the poorest sections of the society in rural areas especially to the SC/ST people;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this direction especially for the SC/ST people in each State including Andhra Pradesh?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (b) : Yes Madam. The primary health care services in rural areas are provided through a network of 145272 Sub-centres, 22370 Primary Health Centres and 4045 Community Health Centres as on March 2007. The services being provided through the above centres are available to all sections of population including SC/ST people irrespective of caste, creed, religion, sex etc.

(c) National Rural Health Mission[NRHM] was launched in year 2005, to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to rural population, especially to the vulnerable section including SC/ST people. Financial assistance is given to the States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh for establishment of new Health Centres as well as for upgradation of existing Health Centres. The State/UT Governments assess their requirement and reflect the same in their Annual Programme Implementation Plan[PIP] under National Rural Health Mission[NRHM]. Thereafter funds are released to them as per the approval of National Programme Coordination Committee [NPCC].