

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4859
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2016
Medical Facility to Senior Citizens
Shetty Shri Gopal Chinayya

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

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

- (a) the number of senior citizens living in the country as on date, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Medical facility available for them is below par to similar facility being provided in other countries;
- (c) if so, the reasons for the lack of these facilities;
- (d) whether any scheme has been introduced for providing medical facility to senior citizens during the last three years; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): As per Census 2011, the 60+ years aged people in India are 103.84 million that accounts for 8.6% of the total population of India. The State-wise details of senior citizens in India is at Annexure.

(b) & (c): Yes. The medical care facilities available to senior citizens in India are not comparable with that of other countries. The medical facilities for senior citizens in developed countries have been initiated long ago as compared to India whereas the National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (NPHCE) was launched only in 2010-11. Hence, dedicated health care facilities are available only in 90 district hospitals, which are operationalised among 418 districts that have been sanctioned for implementation of NPHCE.

(d) & (e): Yes. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare had launched "National Programme for the Health Care of Elderly (NPHCE) during 2010-11 to address various health related problems of elderly people. The programme is State oriented with the following main objective:-

- i. To provide an easy access to promotional, preventive, curative and rehabilitative services to the elderly through community based primary health care approach.
- ii. To identify health problems in the elderly and provide appropriate health interventions in the community with a strong referral backup support.
- iii. To build capacity of the medical and paramedical professionals as well as the care-takers within the family for providing health care to the elderly.
- iv. To provide referral services to the elderly patients through district hospitals, regional medical institutions.
- v. Convergence with National Rural Health Mission, AYUSH and other line departments like Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

As on date, 418 districts, 20 Regional Geriatric Centres (RGCs) and two National Centres for Ageing (NCA) also have been sanctioned for implementation of NPHCE.