

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2074  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020**

**EXPENDITURE ON HEALTH**

**2074. SHRI DEEPAK BAIJ:  
SHRI T.R. BAALU:**

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

- (a) whether India ranks 145th out of 195 countries in terms of access to quality health services with expenditure on healthcare to merely 1.28 percent of its GDP;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve India's ranking and to increase the expenditure on health care to at least ten percent of GDP;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to build a futuristic system of healthcare delivery by ensuring greater transparency in the Research Collaborations and also referring to the triple helix model of innovation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made by the Government in this direction so far?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): As per *The Lancet* Vol.391, June 2, 2018 (p 2236 – 2271), India ranks 145 out of 195 countries in Healthcare Access and Quality Index (HAQ Index).

As per the latest available National Health Accounts Estimates (2016-17), Government Health Expenditure (Centre and States) was 1.2 percent of GDP

(b): Public Health and Hospitals is a State subject, and the State Governments are primarily responsible for health related issues in their respective States. However, the Centre provides financial and technical support to State Governments. The National Health Policy (NHP), 2017 envisages raising Government health expenditure to 2.5% of GDP in a time-bound manner.

The Government has taken many initiatives to improve access to healthcare and quality of healthcare, such as National Health Mission, Ayushman Bharat comprising Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres and Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram, Free Drugs and Free Diagnostics Service Initiative, Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana, etc

(c)& (d): The National Health Policy 2017 recognizes the importance of health research in the development of the nation's health and the need to constantly improve healthcare based on new knowledge and evidence. The Policy supports strengthening health research in the country, drug innovation and discovery, and research collaborations.