GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *211 TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2016/15TH AGRAHAYANA, SAKA, 1938

Relaxation in Fiscal Laws regarding Money Transfer for Medical <u>Treatment</u>

211*. SHRI ANIL DESAI:

QUESTION

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether corporate hospitals in India have made a request to Government to relax fiscal laws for making money transfer easier for medical treatment by genuine patients; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and by when the laws will be relaxed for genuine patients and if not, reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

<u>Statement referred to in reply to RAJYA Sabha Starred Q. No. 211* to</u> <u>be answered on 6th December, 2016 regarding Relaxation in Fiscal</u> <u>Laws regarding Money Transfer for Medical Treatment</u>

(a) & (b): No request has been received from corporate hospitals to change fiscal laws. However, in the context of the cancellation of the legal tender character of the old High Denomination bank notes of Rs. 500 and Rs. 1000 denominations, the Government has reviewed the situation from time to time and has made certain exemptions for the convenience of the public. Accordingly, it was decided that Old High Denomination bank notes will continue to be accepted at Government Hospitals and in all pharmacies on production of Doctor's prescription. This facility has been extended until December 15, 2016 for receipt of old High Denomination notes of Rs. 500. Banks have also been advised to arrange mobile banking vans to the extent possible at major hospitals to carry out emergency banking transactions for patients. Further, to safeguard the interest of patients at various hospitals, members of the public have been advised that they can make complaints to the concerned District Magistrates/District Administration for action against those hospitals which are not accepting Cheques/ Demand Drafts and online payment transfer mechanisms.