

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2169
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1ST JANUARY, 2019**

INADEQUATE HEALTHCARE FACILITIES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

2169. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the senior citizens are not entertained in CGHS/ Wellness Centres as per the national policy;
- (b) whether senior citizens especially in smaller cities are finding difficulty with regard to their treatment because of lack of adequate health centres; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken to set up more health centres in the cities to facilitate senior citizens prompt and effective treatment?

ANSWER

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

(a): Senior citizens CGHS beneficiaries are given due care in CGHS Wellness Centres as per the guidelines issued from time to time. There are some special provisions for them which are as under:-

- ò There are separate queues for Senior citizens at CGHS Wellness Centres.
- ò CGHS Doctors have to consult CGHS beneficiaries aged 80 years and above through telephone at least once in a month.
- ò Senior citizens beneficiaries do not have to stand in queue on their visit to CGHS Wellness Centre.
- ò Medical claims of CGHS pensioner beneficiaries aged 80 years and above are processed on priority basis.

(b) & (c): Since it may not be viable to open CGHS Wellness Centres in every town of the country, CGHS pensioner beneficiaries residing in non-CGHS areas have the following options to avail medical facility under CGHS:-

- ò They have the option to avail CGHS facility by registering themselves in the nearest CGHS city after making the required subscription.

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- ò CGHS pensioner beneficiaries (and their dependent and eligible family members), who are holding a valid CGHS card and are residing in a non-CGHS areas shall be eligible to obtain treatment from Government Hospitals (Central Govt./State Govt./Local Self Government/hospitals recognized under CS (MA) Rules, 1944/hospitals and clinics empanelled under ECHS) and submit the medical reimbursement claim to the Additional Director of the concerned CGHS City, where the CGHS card is registered through CMO in-charge of CGHS Wellness Centre, where the CGHS card is registered.
- ò In case of non-emergency treatment from hospitals approved under Central Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1944 and Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS), it is necessary to obtain prior approval from CMO in-charge of concerned Wellness Centre where the CGHS card is registered.
- ò In case of medical emergency, treatment may be obtained from any hospital and medical claim shall be submitted to the Additional Director/Joint Director of the concerned CGHS City through CMO in-charge of concerned CGHS Wellness Centre, where the CGHS card is registered.

Following steps have been taken to set up more CGHS Wellness Centres in the cities to further facilitate senior citizens prompt and effective treatment:-

- ò Necessary Order regarding opening of new CGHS Allopathic Wellness Centres at Kochi, Varanasi, Srinagar, Jalandhar, Visakhapatnam, Baghpat, Faridabad and Jabalpur has been issued.
- ò The order regarding merger of 33 Postal Dispensaries with CGHS has also been issued.

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