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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1554 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th DECEMBER, 2022

REGULATION OF FEE AND CHARGES IN PRIVATE HOSPITALS

1554. SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P:

Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH and FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has recently taken any step to regulate the consultation fee, treatment and testing charges in private hospitals;

(b) whether there is an upper limit for the various charges that patients have to pay in private hospitals; and

(c) whether Government is planning to initiate a Bill to control and regulate exploitative and unethical pricing policies in private hospitals?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (c): Government of India has enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 (CE Act, 2010) and notified Clinical Establishments (Central Government) Rules, 2012 for registration and regulation of clinical establishments (both government and private) in the country.

Under the Act, for registration and continuation, every clinical establishment is required to fulfil, among other conditions, the following conditions also:

a) Display the rates charged for each type of service provided and facilities available in the local as well as in English language at a conspicuous place for the benefit of the patients.

- b) Ensure compliance with Standard Treatment guidelines issued by Central/State Government. So far Standard Treatment Guidelines for 227 medical conditions in Allopathy, 18 conditions in Ayurveda and 100 conditions in Siddha, have been issued.
- c) Charge the rates for each type of procedure and service within the range of rates determined and issued by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government. For this, a standard list of medical procedures and standard template for costing have been finalized and shared with the States/UTs where the Act is applicable.

Public Health and Hospitals is a State Subject. The implementation and monitoring of the provisions of the CE Act is within the remit of the respective State Government / UT Administration. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the respective State / Union Territory (UT) Government to control and regulate exploitative and unethical pricing policies in private hospitals.
