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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1088 TO BE ANSWERED ON 09TH DECEMBER, 2025

LACK OF A MECHANISM FOR PRIVATE HEALTH CENTERS ON OVERCHARGING FOR TESTS AND TREATMENT

1088 # SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

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

- (a) whether there exists any mechanism under which Government has prescribed rates for private hospitals and diagnostic centers for treatment of common man, on the basis of which various medical tests and surgical procedures are to be charged from patients; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, whether Government proposes to prescribe such rates for private hospitals and diagnostic centers in order to prevent arbitrary charging of fees from the common people?

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

(a) & (b): 'Health' being a State subject, the primary responsibility of addressing the issue of arbitrary charging of fees for treatments in private hospitals and diagnostic centers lies with the respective States/UTs.

Nonetheless, the Government of India enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 (CE Act) and notified the Clinical Establishments (Central Government) Rules, 2012 (CE Rules) to provide for registration and regulation of Government (except those of Armed Forces) as well as private clinical establishments belonging to recognized systems of medicine. As per CE Act, the clinical establishments are required to fulfill the conditions of minimum standards for each type of service provided. The CE Act is adopted by 19 States/UTs (12 States, viz., Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Telangana, Uttarakhand & Uttar Pradesh and 7 UTs, viz., Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Lakshadweep & Puducherry). The States / UTs which have adopted the CE Act are primarily responsible for enforcing/implementing the provisions of the CE Act in the respective States/UTs. The

clinical establishments in the States/UTs, which have not adopted and implemented the CE Act, are registered and regulated by the respective State Acts.

Rule 9(ii) of CE Rules stipulates that the clinical establishments shall charge the rates for each type of procedures and services within the range of rates determined and issues by the Central Government in consultation with the State Governments. The matter of determination of range of rates is *sub-judice* in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
