

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1056
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH JULY, 2026**

PRIVATE HOSPITAL SCAMS

1056 DR. LAXMIKANT BAJPAYEE:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that large number of patients in the country are now frequently becoming victim of private hospital scams such as inflated billing, undergoing unnecessary and unrequired tests, ghost billing i.e. billing for unperformed services, charging for unused medicines etc.;
- (b) whether Government has any mechanism to protect innocent patients from this victimisation by private hospitals, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to review the existing laws governing this serious situation as it doesn't seem to protect patients from these scams?

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

(a) to (c): '*Health*' being a State subject, the primary responsibility to address the issue of patients in the country becoming victims of private hospital scams such as inflated billing, undergoing unnecessary tests and ghost billing 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 amended in 2018 and 2020 (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). For registration of clinical establishments, the CE Rules, *inter-*

alia, stipulates the following:

- (i) every clinical establishment shall display the rates charged for each type of service provided and facilities available, for the benefit of the patients at a conspicuous place in the local as well as in English language.
- (ii) 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. In this connection, the Central Government has held multiple consultations with the States/UTs. The matter is, at present, *sub-judice* in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- (iii) The clinical establishments shall ensure compliance of the Standard Treatment Guidelines.

'*Health*' being a State subject, 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 Act has empowered a registering authority at the district level under the chairmanship of the District Collector / District Magistrate to take actions including imposing penalties in respect of violation of its provisions. The Act also provides for cancellation of registration, if the provisions of the Act are not complied with. 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.
