

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1064
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH JULY, 2026**

**POLICY MEASURES AND ACTIONS AGAINST PRIVATE HOSPITAL
MALPRACTICES**

1064 SHRI CHANDRAKANT DAMODAR HANDORE:

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated any comprehensive national policy or penal framework to explicitly address and curb institutional malpractices, predatory overcharging, and commercial exploitation by corporate private hospitals;
- (b) the specific statutory actions taken against hospitals found guilty of forcing internal diagnostics, billing for unperformed procedures, or illegally withholding patient bodies for bill clearance;
- (c) the number of private establishments penalized under the Clinical Establishments Act or National Medical Commission guidelines during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (d) the policy directives issued to States to enforce mandatory display of standardized treatment rates to protect citizens from financial ruin?

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

(a) to (d): '*Health*' being a State subject, the primary responsibility to address and curb institutional malpractices, overcharging and commercial exploitation by private hospitals 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. Data and details with regard to action taken against such clinical establishments are not maintained centrally. 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.
