

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2068
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th DECEMBER, 2017**

SHORTAGE OF MEDICINES IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS

**2068. SHRI BHAGWANT MANN:
SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI:
PROF. SADHU SINGH:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the extreme shortage of basic medicines and ventilators in Government hospitals, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether most of the medicines prescribed by the doctors are not available in the Government hospitals in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any nexus between pharma companies and doctors forcing patients to purchase medicines from outside has come to the notice of the Government and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the corrective measures taken/being taken by the Government to address the shortage of medicines?

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

(a) & (b): 'Health' being a State subject, no such information is maintained centrally.

In so far as three Central Government hospitals located in Delhi viz. Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and Lady Hardinge & Medical College & its Associated Hospitals are concerned, there is no shortage of basic medicines and adequate number of ventilators are available in these hospitals. Most of the medicines prescribed by doctors are available in these hospitals for treatment of admitted patients.

So far as All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS), Delhi is concerned, 230 generic medicines to Out Patient Department (OPD) patients are provided free of cost. In the AIIMS casualty, all life-saving and emergency drugs are being provided free of cost to all patients attending casualty. In the general wards of AIIMS, all the in-patients are provided 543 medicines free of cost from the hospital formulary. The Below the Poverty Line (BPL) card-holders in-patients are also provided all medicines outside hospital formulary free of cost. Further, non-BPL in-patients who cannot afford to purchase medicines are provided free medicines on the basis of certificate of treating consultant.

(c): As far as these three Central Government hospitals are concerned, no such complaint has been received/reported.

(d): The various measures taken by these hospitals to ensure adequate supply of medicines, are as follows:-

- i) Procurement of medicines on regular basis
- ii) Procurement of drugs as and when required, depending on urgency & need and as per the prescription of treating doctors
- iii) Maintaining adequate stock of basic essential medicines