

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

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.242  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST, 2018  
TIMINGS FOR OPD FACILITY**

**\*242. SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:  
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:**

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

- (a) whether the Safdarjung Hospital is planning to introduce Out Patient Department (OPD) for 12 hours on a pilot basis and if so, the details thereof including the timings of OPD in the Central Government run and its associated hospitals along with the departments included in the pilot project;
- (b) whether the Government has consulted doctors and other stakeholders before providing OPD facility from 8 am to 8 pm and if so, the details thereof including the response of the doctors/ stakeholders thereto;
- (c) whether the current timings are not suitable for majority of the people and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the time by which the said decision is likely to be implemented by the Safdarjung Hospital; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to extend OPD hours in other Central Government run hospitals and its associated hospitals in the country?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 242\* FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST, 2018**

(a) to (e): Public hospitals are the only health care facilities affordable to the low income group of patients. Therefore, it has always been the endeavour of the Government to equip these hospitals with all facilities so as to enable them to provide better and efficient healthcare services to the patients visiting these hospitals.

Suggestions/proposals are received from time to time for better management and distribution of patients, patient satisfaction, optimal utilization of infrastructure, system improvements, etc. These suggestions are examined on a regular basis in the larger interest of patient care and efficient functioning of the healthcare facilities. Decisions on such proposals are taken on merit.

Proposals for extending Out Patient Department (OPD) hours require additional infrastructure, resources, financial support, etc. No decision has been taken to increase OPD hours in Safdarjung or any other Central Government hospitals in Delhi.

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