

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1083
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND NOVEMBER, 2019**

EXORBITANT CHARGES BY PRIVATE HOSPITALS

**1083. SHRI K. NAVASKANI:
SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:
SHRI BALUBHAU ALIAS SURESH NARAYAN DHANORKAR:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that huge amount is charged to patients by private hospitals, resulting in huge crowd of patients in Government hospitals in Delhi;
- (b) whether the Government is going to frame any policy to curb high charges for treatment in private hospitals;
- (c) if so, the details of steps taken by the Government to make affordable and standard healthcare facilities available to the patients in private hospitals also; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a): Yes. The Government is aware of the reports appearing in the media from time to time about cases of overcharging by the private health care establishments.

As per constitutional provisions, 'Health is a State subject. It is the responsibility of the respective State Governments take cognizance of such instances and to take action to prevent and control such practices. Complaints, as and when received, are forwarded to the concerned State/UT Government which regulate the hospitals/clinical establishments as per the provisions of Act and Rules applicable in the concerned State/UT.

(b) to (d): The Government of India has enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 and notified Clinical Establishments (Central Government) Rules, 2012 for registration and regulation of clinical establishments (both Government and Private) in the country. In the States /UTs where the said Act is in force, the clinical establishments are required to meet the norms such as minimum standards of facilities and services, minimum requirement of personnel, maintenance of records and reports and

displaying of rates at a conspicuous place. The clinical establishments are also required to follow Standard Treatment Guidelines issued by the Central/State Governments and charge rates for each type of procedure and service within the range of rates determined from time to time. The National Council for Clinical Establishments has developed a standard list of medical procedures and a standard template for costing of medical procedures and shared the same with the States and Union Territories for appropriate action by them. The implementation and enforcement of the said Act is within the purview of the State/UT Governments.

The Central Government, under the National Health Mission (NHM), provides financial and technical support to the States/UTs for strengthening their healthcare system for provision of accessible, affordable and quality healthcare to all the people. This support includes support for free maternal & child health, immunization, communicable disease control programmes, prevention and management of non-communicable diseases, strengthening health systems such as physical infrastructure, augmenting health human resource on contractual basis, free ambulance services, free essential drugs & diagnostics, free blood, free dialysis services to the poor, mobile medical units, etc.

Further, the Ministry of Health and family welfare has started AMRIT (Affordable Medicines and reliable Implants for Treatment) stores where essential life saving medicines and implants are being provided at a substantial discount vis-à-vis the Maximum retail Price.