

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3064
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2019**

MEDICO-LEGAL DISPUTES

3064. SHRIMATI DARSHANA VIKRAM JARDOSH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that disputes between patient and doctor/ hospital are rising everyday in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken so far by his Ministry in coordination with the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and the concerned State Government for settlement of such medico-legal dispute in a fair and progressive manner;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up a special medico-legal authority in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, Statewise?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Disputes between patient and doctor/hospital have come to the notice of the Government.

As per Constitutional provisions, “Health” and “Law and Order” are State subjects. Therefore, the concerned State/UT Governments are required to take measures to prevent such incidents under the appropriate legal framework applicable in the respective State/UT.

As per provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, three tier quasi-judiciary machinery has been set up at District, State and Central levels for protection of the rights of consumers and to provide simple and speedy Redressal of consumer disputes including medico –legal disputes. The consumer fora are empowered to give relief of a specific nature and award compensation, wherever appropriate, to consumers.

(c) & (d): No. Government does not propose to set up special medico-legal authority.