76. PROF. SAUGATA RAY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by the Government to implement Hon’ble Supreme Court’s direction regarding salary and welfare measures to nurses and paramedical staff in the country;
(b) the details of the States which have implemented the Supreme Court direction; and
(c) the reasons for not implementing the court order?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar)

(a) to (c): As per information received from the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Hon’ble Supreme Court vide judgement dated 29th January, 2016 in Writ Petition (C) No. 527/2011 directed Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to look into the grievances of nurses working in private hospitals/ institutions by forming a committee. Accordingly, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare constituted a committee in February, 2016. The recommendations of the committee have been sent on 20.09.2016 to all States/ Union Territories for making legislation/guidelines in this regard. Health being a state subject, it is for the concerned State Governments to make legislation/ guidelines for the purpose. All the State Governments have been requested from time to time for improvement of service conditions of nurses including those working in the private sector.

As per information available, four States namely, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab and Delhi have issued notification in this regard.

In so far as nurses and paramedical staff working in the Employees’ State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) hospitals under the Ministry of Labour & Employment are concerned, no specific direction has been received from the Hon’ble Supreme Court. Moreover, salary and welfare measures for the nurses and paramedical staff working in ESIC hospitals are provided as per equivalent pay scales and service conditions of the Central Government. In the State run ESI hospitals, salary and service conditions equivalent to the State Government norms are paid.

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