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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3850 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25th MARCH 2022

OVERCHARGING BY PRIVATE HOSPITALS

3850. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA:

Will the minister of HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the fact that private hospitals are exorbitantly charging from poor people in the name of healthcare and endorse unnecessary tests;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the hospitals found involved in such malpractices in the country, State / UT-wise including Delhi; and

(c) the concrete and punitive steps taken / proposed to be taken by the Government to check such illegal and unjust activities by the private hospitals in the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) to (c): Health is a State subject and it is the responsibility of the respective State / Union Territory (UT) Government to take cognizance of such instances wherein private hospitals have charged exorbitantly from poor people in the name of healthcare and have endorsed unnecessary tests and to take action to prevent and control such practices.

Government of India has enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 (CE Act, 2010) and notified Clinical Establishments (Central Government) Rules, 2012 for registration and regulation of clinical establishments (both government and private) in the country.

Under the Act, for registration and continuation, every clinical establishment is required to fulfil, among other conditions, the following conditions also:

- a) Display the rates charged for each type of service provided and facilities available in the local as well as in English language at a conspicuous place for the benefit of the patients.
- b) Ensure compliance with Standard Treatment guidelines issued by Central/State Government .
 So far Standard Treatment Guidelines for 227 medical conditions in Allopathy, 18 conditions in Ayurveda and 100 conditions in Siddha, have been issued.
- c) Charge the rates for each type of procedure and service within the range of rates determined and issued by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government. For this, a standard list of medical procedures and standard template for costing have been finalized and shared with the States/UTs where the Act is applicable.

The Act as on date is applicable in 11 States namely Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttrakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Rajasthan, Mizoram, Uttar Pradesh, Assam and Haryana and 7 Union Territories namely Puducherry, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, Andaman & Nicobar, Chandigarh, Lakshadweep, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The implementation and monitoring of the provisions of the CE Act is within the remit of the respective State Government/UT Administration.
