

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN WELFARE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4210
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th December, 2024
HOSPITALS EMPANELLED UNDER ECHS

4210. SHRI M K RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has noticed that a large number of veterans have been denied their rightful services from hospitals empanelled under the ECHS scheme, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has noticed any delay in clearing dues of the hospitals empanelled under ECHS, if so, the details thereof including remedial measures taken by the Government to resolve the issue;
- (c) whether the Government has noticed unwillingness from hospitals to remain in the ECHS scheme, if so, the details thereof, hospital-wise, State/UT-wise and year-wise along with the reasons for their withdrawal;
- (d) whether the Government revises rates of services of Hospitals under ECHS scheme from time to time to assure their presence in ECHS; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the time of last revision?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI SANJAY SETH)

- (a): No, Sir.
- (b): Under ECHS, Hospital claims are settled through an online Bill Processing Portal by respective Regional Centres after obtaining approval of the Competent Financial Authority. Claims are auto assigned for processing on First In First Out (FIFO) basis on the Transaction Management System (TMS). Timely settlement of claims is one of the key parameters against which scheme performance is measured. The status of claim settlement under the scheme is constantly monitored to ensure that claims are settled within defined turnaround time and Hospitals can check the status of their claims online. Review meetings are organized regularly to take stock of the progress with regards to the claims.
- (c): The number of Hospitals empanelled in ECHS scheme has shown an increasing trend over the last few years. There has been no report during the year of any hospital showing unwillingness to remain in ECHS.
- (d): ECHS follows the CGHS rates of services of Hospitals and accordingly revises its rates whenever the rates in CGHS are revised.
- (e): The last revision in ECHS rates was made in respect of consultation fee, room rent and ICU charges w.e.f 12.04.2023 while the rates of certain imaging services, General surgery besides addition of certain treatment/procedures were done w.e.f 01.02.2024. Details of all revisions are available in the public domain on ECHS website (<https://www.echs.gov.in>) and CGHS website (<http://cghs.nic.in>).
