

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4598

ANSWERED ON 20/08/2025

SHORTAGE OF EQUIPMENTS SUPPLIES

4598. ADV DEAN KURIAKOSE:

Will the Minister of **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has examined the reasons that has led to the shortage of equipment supplies for neuro and peripheral interventional procedures impacting patient care and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the hospital has reinitiated the signing of equipment contract with vendors to streamline the issue that impacted patient care and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the short-term solution of equipment purchase through HLL has led to increase in treatment costs of neuro and interventional radiology procedures and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to streamline the supply chain for equipments and consumables in the National Premier Institute?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी तथा पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
(डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह)

- (a) There is no shortage of equipment supplies for neuro and peripheral interventional procedures, impacting patient care at Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology (SCTIMST), Thiruvananthapuram.

(b) SCTIMST has a rate contract tender to procure items for neuro and peripheral interventional procedures till October 2025. Three key suppliers declined supply of equipment beyond July 2025, citing a requirement for price escalation. In May 2025, the Department of Imaging Sciences and Interventional Radiology (IS&IR) at SCTIMST recommended procuring the items through the Government agency AMRIT Pharmacy. Thus, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with HLL Life Care Limited (HLL) on 10/06/2025 to procure the items through the Government procurement agency, Amrit Pharmacy to avoid impact on patient care, if any.

(c) The current MoU with HLL has prices at par/same with the National Institutions like AIIMS, PGIMER etc and includes a price fall clause, which ensures that SCTIMST benefits from the lowest prices offered by HLL for the same items elsewhere, thereby preventing cost escalations in neuro and interventional radiology procedures.

(d) The MoU with HLL will ensure an uninterrupted supply of equipment and consumables through the Government procurement agency, Amrit Pharmacy. Continuous efforts are also being made to streamline the purchase processes through Government e Marketplace (GeM) as per norms mandated by Government of India. To avoid supply disruptions in the National Premier Institute, flexibility is provided to procure the equipment either through rate contracts, AMRIT pharmacies or the GeM portal.
