

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2319  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2016**

**CRITERIA FOR LABORATORIES**

**2319. SHRIMATI VANAROJA R.:  
COL. SONARAM CHOUDHARY:**

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

- (a) the details of the criteria/parameters set by the World Health Organisation with regard to running of laboratories in the country;
- (b) whether adequate number of technical personnels are available in all the hospitals across the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has issued guidelines to hospitals/laboratories to charge the reasonable rates for diagnostic tests; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

(a):- The details of the criteria/parameters of running laboratories set by WHO is available on the URL: [www.who.int/csr/resources/Publication/biosafety/en/Biosafety/pdf](http://www.who.int/csr/resources/Publication/biosafety/en/Biosafety/pdf).

(b) to (e): As per Rural Health Statistics(RHS) Bulletin 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2015, there is shortage of Laboratory Technicians (LTs) at Public Health Centre (PHC) and Community Health Centre (CHC) level in the State. Under the National Health Mission, technical and financial support is provided to States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare systems based on the Programmed Implementation Plans (PIPS) submitted by the States/UTs, including for appointment of LTs on contract basis. Further, the Government is encouraging States Governments to provide essential diagnostics free of cost to the patients coming to government health facilities.

In so far as three Central Government hospitals located in Delhi viz. Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML hospital and Lady Hardinge & Medical College & its associated hospitals are concerned, there are adequate number of sanctioned technical staff available for routine laboratory services. Filling up of post is a continuous process in these hospitals and is taken up from time to time.

Treatment is provided free of cost to all patients in these hospitals without any discrimination. Routine investigations are also done free of cost. Nominal charges are levied for specialized investigations which are also waived off for BPL/poor and deserving patients.