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

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.394 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12TH AUGUST, 2016 MALPRACTICES IN AIIMS

*394. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

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

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the instances of corrupt practices/ malpractices in the purchase of medical equipments in various Central Government hospitals particularly the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and if so, the details thereof during the last three years, case-wise;

(b) whether there are reports of improper inquiry conducted into the past cases particularly in AIIMS and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to devise an efficient mechanism to curb such malpractices?

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

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 394* FOR 12TH AUGUST, 2016

(a): As far as three Central Government Hospitals in Delhi viz. Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College & Associated Hospitals and 6 new AIIMS being set up under Phase –I of PMSSY are concerned, no instances of corrupt practices/malpractices in the purchase of medical equipment have been reported during last three years.

However, as far as AIIMS, New Delhi, is concerned, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had conducted an enquiry into a complaint regarding fraud in purchase of surgical items and, on conclusion of enquiry, submitted a Self Contained Note in December, 2014, which prima facie pointed to an anomalous financial practice for which the officials of AIIMS cited unforeseen emergencies in the field of surgery, necessitating purchases from reputed vendors.

(b): No.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): The inquiry into the complaint did not reveal any corruption, selective favouring or criminal acts. However, it has been decided to streamline the purchase procedure by implementing e-governance, computerisation of inventory and measures like digitisation of store/records with well-trained Store In-charge who could take care of this as well as other system problems so that the actual items purchased by the Hospital and available for use could be known. The result of the inquiry and the proposed systemic improvement in purchase of equipment/items has been communicated to Central Vigilance Commission.
