

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding the cashless facility under CGHS and dispensary timings from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M.

SHRI H. VASANTHAKUMAR (KANYAKUMARI): Respected Speaker, Sir, the hon. Health Minister has asked for some suggestions for revamping the CGHS. I have some suggestions to make.

Now the CGHS dispensaries function only from 8 am to 2 pm and the facility is not available after 2 pm. If one has to consult a doctor, he has to wait for one more day. However, in case, he approaches an empanelled hospital, there is a mandate that he has to get an emergency certificate from a hospital. However, it is not necessary that every time there should be an emergency after 2 p.m. Sometimes, a person could be suffering from a problem which may not be an emergency but still he cannot wait till the next day. In those cases, to simplify the consultation process, the patient should be allowed to consult empanelled private hospitals after 2 p.m. directly without being referred to by the dispensary even in case of non-emergency.

It is understood that the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has to reimburse hospitals to the tune of more than Rs.1000 crore. It is because of this that a large number of empanelled hospitals have decided not to entertain patients for whom cashless facility has been extended.
...(Interruptions)

12.22 hrs

(At this stage, Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and some other

hon. Members left the House.)