

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5168
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2010
SHORTAGE OF STAFF IN ONCOLOGY DEPARTMENT
Panda Shri Prabodh

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

- (a) whether cancer patients are facing difficulties in getting their treatment in Government hospitals on various counts including shortage of doctors and paramedical staff in Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial measures taken by the Government to tackle the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (c): No. As far as treatment of cancer patients through Radiotherapy is concerned, the treatment is done in Safdarjung Hospital in case of Central Government hospitals in Delhi. Out of three units of Cobalt machines in Safdarjung Hospital, two units are non-operational since Atomic Energy Regulatory board (AERB) directed to stop operation of these two Cobalt units due to inadequate number of Medical Physicists. However, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has already sanctioned four posts of Medical Physicist for appointment on contract basis to man these cobalt units.