

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5201

ANSWERED ON:27.08.2010

EXPIRED STENTS USED FOR POOR CANCER PATIENTS

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

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints that expired stents are being used for poor cancer patients in various Government as well as private hospitals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to stop recurrence of such incidents?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): No such cases have been reported from the Central Government Hospitals in Delhi, namely, Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College and its associated hospitals.

With reference to recent news item in this connection regarding the Lok Nayak Jayprakash Narayan Hospital, New Delhi, it has been informed by the LNJP Hospital that stents are permanent devices fitted in the patients' bodies. Thus they have life-long function and do not expire. However, they have a fixed sterility period after which they can be resterilised and used with total safety. It is common practice to use such devices after resterilisation with ethylene oxide for which equipments are available in LNJP Hospital.