

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:703  
ANSWERED ON:12.11.2010  
NDM-I ENZYME  
Ramasubbu Shri S.

**Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the rapid emergence of New Delhi Mettalo-beta- lactamase(NDM-I) is posing a serious threat to the promotion of medical tourism in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to protect the visiting tourists from NDM-I enzyme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SULTAN AHMED)

(a) to (e): The media reports of New Delhi Mettalo-beta-lactamase bacteria (NDM-I) has drawn attention in both domestic and international media raising a concern among prospective Medical Tourists visiting India. The Government of India has questioned the sample size and the methodology adopted in the study and the unethical use of such partial data collection from two hospitals to extrapolate to the whole country. The Health Ministry, Government of India has strongly refuted the naming of this enzyme as "New Delhi Mettalo-beta-lactamase" and also stated the hospitals in India are safe for medical tourism.

The Ministry of Tourism through its overseas offices and through its website has assured that all Indian hospitals servicing Medical Tourists are accredited either by Joint Commission International (JCI) or National Board for Accreditation of Hospitals and Healthcare (NABH) and follow International Safety Standards, and therefore, India remains safe medical tourism destination.