

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2971

ANSWERED ON:26.11.2010

PATIENT SAFETY AND INFECTION CONTROL STANDARD

Biju Shri P. K.;Mani Shri Jose K.;Sampath Shri Anirudhan

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

- (a) whether the Government has evolved a coherent and stringent patient safety and infection-control standards for all the Government and private hospitals in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the standards followed by the Indian hospitals are in accordance with some of the internationally recognized standards like Joint Commission International, National Patient Safety Agency of the United Kingdom and the World Alliance on Patient Safety;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government is taking any corrective measures to expedite the process of getting all hospitals in the country accredited;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the time by which it is likely to be done?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI)

(a) & (b): In so far as the three Central Government Hospitals in Delhi namely, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital and Lady Harding Medical College & associated hospitals are concerned, stringent patient safety and infection control standards are followed, the details of which are as under:

# Infection Control Committees and Patient Safety Committees have been constituted. The Committees hold meetings at regular intervals to review the infection control and Patient Safety issues and take measures for improvement.

# Infection control guidelines have been formulated and are in practice.

# Hand Hygiene is practiced as per World Health Organization (WHO) Guidelines.

# Check Lists or performa have been introduced for Surgical Safety in Wards and Operation Theatre (Modified version of WHO Surgical Safety check list), patient safety evaluation, Patient Safety monitoring and Adverse Event reporting.

# A standard "Do no Use" List from Joint Commission International listing symbols to be avoided while writing prescriptions has been introduced to prevent mistakes in the reading of prescriptions.

# Trainings in Patient Safety including Hand hygiene, infection control and Bio-medical waste management are regularly conducted for Doctors and paramedical Staff.

In addition, National Guidelines on Hospital waste Management based on Bio-medical waste (Management & Handling) Rules were developed by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and distributed to all States/Union Territories in the year 2002 for implementation.

(c) & (d): The Patient safety and infection control standards followed by above mentioned Central Government hospitals have taken into account, wherever considered appropriate, internationally recognized standards like World Alliance on Patient Safety, a World Health Organization initiative, Joint Commission International, etc.

(e), (f) & (g): Though the Accreditation is voluntary, however, with the increase in awareness on accreditation, more and more hospitals are coming forward to seek accreditation.

As part of the health sector reforms undertaken by the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), States/Union Territories (UTs) are seeking accreditation for hospitals under their administrative control to improve the range of quality of care.

Under NRHM, major steps have also been taken to augment Human Resources, improve infrastructure and equipments at health facilities and improve planning, management and logistics/supply chain management. This is expected to help the health facilities in the process of getting accredited.