

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1484  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2011  
VALIDITY OF CGHS CARD  
Chauhan Shri Sanjay Singh

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

- (a) whether pensioners under CGHS who were earlier holding CGHS cards valid for life, have since been issued plastic cards which are valid only upto 2014;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the corrective steps being taken by the Government to prevent the pensioners from unnecessary harassment in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): Though the plastic cards are initially issued for a period of 5 years, these are basically Identity Card for availing treatment facilities from CGHS. The actual validity is as per CGHS Data Base. However, vide O.M.No.Misc.6024/ 2007/CGHS (HQ)/CGHS (P) dated 27.12.2010, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has clarified that the plastic cards always issued with a printed validity of 5 years would be valid for whole life in respect of pensioners who have contributed equivalent of 10 years contribution. However, they have the option to get the old plastic cards replaced after 5 years. It has also been decided to issue new plastic cards with whole life validity in respect of CGHS beneficiaries, who contribute in lump 10 years.