

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3883

ANSWERED ON:27.04.2012

TREATMENT OF POOR PATIENTS IN PRIVATE HOSPITALS

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

- (a) whether private hospitals including hospitals empanelled under Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) in the country where most of the beds meant for poor patients under free category are lying vacant are not providing treatment to poor patients despite allotted lands at concessional rates by the Union/various State Governments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, hospital wise during the last three years and action taken against them;
- (c) whether the Union Government/Apex Court has issued any directions to such private hospitals to give free treatment to the poor;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken for its compliance;
- (e) whether the said direction is applicable in other States also;
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor and further steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (g) whether the Government proposes to enact any special law to provide medical facilities to the poor patients free of cost; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) & (b): As reported by the Government of NCT of Delhi only three hospitals in Delhi to whom land was allotted on concessional rates by the land allotting agencies namely, Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and Land & Development Office (L&DO), are not providing free treatment to the eligible patients of economically weaker sections category as their matter is subjudice in Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. As far as private Hospitals empanelled under CGHS are concerned, there is no provision in the MOU signed between the hospitals and CGHS to provide free medical treatment to poor patients as the scheme is applicable to Central Government employees, pensioners, MPs, ex-MPs, ex-Governors, etc.

(c) & (d): Out of 40 identified hospitals, 10 Hospitals filed SLP (C) No. 18599/2007 against the directions issued by the High Court in Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The said SLP (C) has been dismissed by Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 1.9.2011.

(e) to (h): The order of High Court of Delhi was applicable to identified Hospitals, who were given concessional lands by various land owning agencies in Delhi and Hon'ble Supreme Court upheld the order of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. Accordingly, the Government of NCT of Delhi has taken various steps, which include issuing fresh guidelines to the identified private hospitals to provide treatment to the extent of 25% OPD and 10% IPD completely free of cost in all respects to the eligible patients; constitution of Monitoring Committee to verify genuineness of the patients receiving free treatment and improve the shortfall; displaying availability of free beds in identified Private Hospitals for public viewing through Delhi Government website www.health.delhigovt.nic.in, etc.

As 'Public Health' is a State subject, it is responsibility of State Government to issue any direction in this regard.