

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4794
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2012
RECORD OF TREATMENT OF EWS PATIENTS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is having any record in regard to the number of people belonging to economically weaker sections treated free of cost so far in private hospitals which were allotted land on concessional rates;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of poor patients benefited during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to enforce guidelines regarding free/concessional treatment to poor patients in such private hospitals and punish the erring hospitals?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Public Health is a State subject and no such information is maintained centrally. However, as informed by the Government of NCT of Delhi, the details of number of economically weaker sections' (EWS) patients who have availed free treatment in the identified private hospitals in the OPD and in the IPD during the last three years i.e. 2009, 2010 and 2011 are given below:

Year	Number of patients in OPD	Number of patients in IPD
2009	725839	22133
2010	797728	23440
2011	837967	24207

The Government of NCT of Delhi, to enforce the guidelines regarding free/concessional treatment to poor patients of EWS category in identified private hospitals; has taken the following measures:

- (i) Issuing of fresh guidelines on the subject in pursuance of the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 01/09/2011 in SLP No. 18599/2009,
- (ii) Establishment of Special Referral Centres and appointment of Nodal Officers in each of the Identified Private and Government Hospitals for facilitating the referral and treatment of EWS patients
- (iii) Regular publicity by issuing advertisement on the provision of free treatment in the leading daily newspapers in Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu & English and broadcast in the electronic media
- (iv) Creation of a webpage www.health.delhigovt.nic.in for displaying the real time availability of free Critical & Non-Critical beds and names and contact number of Nodal Officers for facilitating the referral of EWS patients from Govt. Hospitals to identified private hospitals and for monitoring purposes, etc.