GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:503 ANSWERED ON:11.05.2012 REGULATION OF CLINICAL ESTABLISHMENTS Mithlesh Shri

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

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the cases where exorbitant fees are being charged from the patients by doctors in private hospitals across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with facts in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to regulate and ensure quality services, affordable fees and to check malpractices in private hospitals, nursing homes etc.; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard so far?

Answer

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

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 503 FOR 11 MAY, 2012

Yes, Madam. There have been reports in the media about exorbitant fees being charged by the private hospitals across the country. However, since 'Health' is a state subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to regulate health care services and take action to ensure affordable health care services for people.

Keeping in view the need to regulate the healthcare facilities in the public interest, the Central Government has enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration & Regulation) Act, 2010. The Act provides for registration and regulation of all kinds of clinical establishments of recognized systems of medicine. This Act provides for adherence to certain minimum standards of facilities by the clinical establishments.

It has come into effect from 1st March, 2012 in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Sikkim, and all Union Territories. The registration and regulation processes shall be managed primarily by the State Governments as per the provisions given in the Act and the Rules to be made thereunder.

The Act, when adopted and implemented by the States, will facilitate in improving the quality of health care sendees in the country.