GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1207 ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012 RATIONALISATION OF HOSPITAL CHARGES Vijayan Shri A.K.S.

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

(a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding doctors working in different hospitals charge exorbitantly and exploiting the patients;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to rationalise the hospital charges and make the hospital authorities to display them on the notice board;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): Health is a State subject and it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to regulate/monitor the functioning of the hospitals in the States. Information regarding complaints against doctors for charging exorbitantly is not maintained centrally.

In so far as the three Central Government Hospitals in Delhi namely, Safdarjung Hospital, Dr.Ram Mahohar Lohia Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College and its Associated Hospital are concerned, no such complaint has been received. The Government approved charges applicable for special investigations are displayed on the Notice Boards of these hospitals.

Further, the Central Government has enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act,2010. The Act has come into effect in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Sikkim and Union Territories with effect from 1st March, 2012. All other states have been requested to adopt this Act. As per the Clinical Establishments (Central Government) Rules 2012 notified under this Act, the clinical establishments shall charge the rates for each type of procedures and services within the range of rates to be determined and issued by the Central Government from time to time in consultation with the State Governments. Every clinical establishment shall display the rates charged for each type of service provided and facilities available, for the benefit of the patients at a conspicuous place in the local as well as in English language.