GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2260 ANSWERED ON:24.08.2012 COST OF DIAGNOSTIC TESTS Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

- (a) whether there is a huge difference in the rates of tests such as blood test, urine test, x-ray and MRI etc. being carried out at Government hospitals, clinics, medical institutes under Central Government and those being carried out at private hospitals in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to curtail the huge rates being charged by the private hospitals or to bring these rates at par with those of Government hospitals;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to provide the general public of the country the facility to get medical treatment and carry out tests in the private hospitals at the rate equivalent to those in Government hospitals; and
- (e) if so, by when?

Answer

THE MINISTER 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 and monitor the rates of such tests charged by Government and private hospitals in the States.

However, Parliament has enacted Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act 2010 which has been published in the Gazette of India on 19-8-2010 for registration and regulation of the Clinical Establishments and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The Act has come into force in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Sikkim and all union territories with effect from 1-3-2012. The States of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Jharkhand have adopted this Act. Other State Governments have been requested to adopt this Act.

As per the Clinical Establishments (Central Government) Rules 2012, notified on 23-5-2012 under the abovementioned Act, the clinical establishments are mandated to charge the rates, to for each type of procedures and services within the range of rates determined by the Central Government from time to time in consultation with the State Governments.