

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3237
ANSWERED ON:31.08.2012
HEALTHCARE HUB
Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

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

- (a) whether India is emerging as a healthcare hub in Asia due to the growing number of multi and single super speciality care hospitals in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether certain overseas organisations have shown interest in setting up hospitals through Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) route; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Medical Tourism is one of the growing segments to travel into India. The percentage of Foreign Tourist Arrivals visiting India for Medical Treatment increased from 2.2% in 2009 to 2.7% in 2010. Ministry of Tourism has included the promotion of Medical Tourism as a new initiative. The Marketing Development Assistance Scheme(MDA), administered by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, provides financial support to approved tourism service providers. MDA scheme has also been extended to Medical and Wellness Tourism service providers. Financial support under the MDA Scheme will be provided to approve medical tourism service providers, i.e Hospital accredited by Joint Commission for International Accredited Hospitals(JCI) and National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers(NABH) and Medical Tourism facilitators Travel Agents/Tour Operators approved by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India and engaged in Medical Tourism.

(c) & (d): 100% FDI is permissible in the Health Sector under the automatic route. However, no proposal for infusion of Foreign Direct Investment(FDI) for setting up of hospitals was received during the period from April, 2011 to 30th August,2012 and no such proposal has been approved during the above period by FIPB unit of Department of Economic Affairs.