

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3387

ANSWERED ON:31.08.2012

TREATMENT OF POOR

Azad Shri Kirti (Jha);Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar;Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Ramasubbu Shri S.;Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana;Singh Shri Bhola;Singh Shri Radha Mohan

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

- (a) whether the Government has noticed patients belonging to poor and middle class remain without medicines and treatment in several Government hospitals and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make available medicines to poor patients and also ensure free/affordable investigation centres/life saving equipment in hospitals for them;
- (c) whether the Government has received any complaints in this regard from various States;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide better facilities to the poor in Government hospitals?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): In so far as three Central Government Hospitals, namely, Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. R.M.L. Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College & its associated hospitals are concerned, all the patients irrespective of their economic status are provided free treatment including using life saving equipments. All life saving and essential medicines are provided to the Indoor Patients free of cost. In case some medicine is not available due to some reasons in the store, provisions have been made to procure the medicines from local chemist after justification from the department about the essentiality of the medicine in patient care. All essential medicines are distributed to OPD patient free of cost as per hospital formulary.

All routine investigations are also done free for all the patients without any discrimination on any grounds. However, nominal charges are being levied in these hospitals for some special investigations/tests and even these are free of cost to the BPL/poor patients and CGHS beneficiaries.