

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2314

ANSWERED ON:07.12.2012

JAWAHARLAL INSTITUTE OF POST GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH .

Sivasami Shri C.

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

- (a) whether the Jawaharlal Institute of Post-Graduate Medical Education and Research, Puducherry, has started charging user charges for certain medical investigations and procedures;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has received any representations to withdraw the decision of the Institute and revert to the earlier practice of offering free service to the public;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) Minimal charges have been collected at Jawaharlal Institute of Post-graduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER) since late 1980s, only from a miniscule of patients whose self declared income is more than Rs.2500/- per month. In January 2012, JIPMER proposed new user charges for high end investigations in the Department of Nuclear Medicine and for high end procedures in the Department of Radiotherapy. These charges are levied to defray the cost of ongoing expenses such as Isotopes.

(c) to (e) A number of representations have been received in this regard and the matter of levying of user charges was again discussed at length in the Standing Finance Committee of JIPMER held on 25.9.2012 in which the following decisions have been taken:-

- I Absolutely free treatment to patients below poverty line.
- II. For those above poverty line, existing charges to be continued status-quo.
- III. Special wards and high-tech investigations to be charged at par with AIIMS.