

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:327
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2012
THEFT OF INFANTS
Tirkey Shri Manohar

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

- (a) whether a number of incidents of theft of infants from different Government hospitals of the country has been reported;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise and hospitalwise; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon to curb these type of incidents?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Health being a State subject, no such information is maintained centrally. However, in so far as the Central Government Hospitals located in Delhi viz. Safdarjung Hospital, Lady Hardinge Medical College & Kalawati Saran Children's Hospital and Dr. RML Hospital are concerned, only one case of missing of a baby girl was reported on 10.10.2009 from Obstetrics & Gynecology department in Safdarjung Hospital. The matter was reported to Police by the Hospital authority. Preliminary enquiry conducted by the hospital authority revealed that the baby was handed over to a lady (who was befriended by the mother of the baby) by the mother herself in lieu of gratification in the form of money and clothes.

Various security arrangements have been put in place in all three Central Government Hospitals, which include round-the-clock monitoring by CCTV cameras; round-the-clock deployment of security guards in all maternity wards and on all the strategic points including main entry and exit points; putting up of notices in all wards and at important public places informing that infants should not be handed over to unknown persons, etc.