

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:19
ANSWERED ON:22.02.2013
THEFT OF INFANTS FROM HOSPITALS
Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) whether the incidents of stealing of new born children in various Government hospitals in the country have been increasing;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the action taken by the Government against the persons found involved/ guilty in such incidents; and
- (d) the details of stringent measures being taken by the Government to check such incidents in future and for strengthening security in the hospitals?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (c) In so far as three Central Government Hospital in Delhi, Namely, Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital and LHMC & its associated hospitals are concerned, no such incident of theft of infants have been reported.

(d) Proper documentation of births is done in these hospitals and identification bands/labels are put on the babies. Babies are personally handed over to the mothers by the Staff Nurse. No unauthorized person is allowed entry inside the labour room.

Adequate security measures are in placed in these hospitals and the areas of new born infants come under CCTV coverage. The strategic points are also being watched by the Security Guards round the clock and the infants are allowed to go out of the Department only after verification of the Discharge slip. Notices are also put in all the wards and at the important public places that infants should not be handed over to unknown persons.