

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1430
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013
INFECTION IN ICUS
Ramasubbu Shri S.

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

- (a) whether any study has been conducted about the increasing number of cases of infection in Intensive Care Units (ICUs) in Government hospitals;
- (b) if so, the details of the study and the response of the Government thereto along with the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has issued any instruction to the States/UTs to keep the ICUs, safest part of any hospital; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the State/UT Governments thereon?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has informed that a study is undertaken by the Indian Society of Critical Care viz. Indian Intensive Care Case Mix and Practice Patterns Study (INDICAPS) across 17 States to document the number of patients in India dying from infections in Intensive Care Units (ICUs) and neonatal deaths that happen every year due to sepsis attributable to antibiotic resistance. INDICAPS study is with a sample size of 4,209 patients admitted in 124 ICUs across 17 states. The report for INDICAPS is not published as yet.

(c) & (d): A large proportion of these hospital infections are easily preventable with increased hospital infection control, including stepping up hygiene practices, such as frequent hand-washing etc. The Government has introduced a National Policy for containment of Antibiotic Resistance to check the misuse of crucial drugs. The policy requires doctors to write prescriptions for antibiotics in duplicate, with pharmacists having to retain copy for a year to prevent over the counter sale of antibiotics.