

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:694
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2015
MEDICAL TESTS
Godse Shri Hemant Tukaram

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that many private hospitals in the country conduct unnecessary medical tests and procedures for treatment to mint money from patients;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to standardise the cost and quality of tests and procedures for treatment of various diseases and categories of patients and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has directed issued any guidelines to the private hospitals to display treatment cost of diseases especially heart attack, stroke, cancer etc. and notify standard cost for medical procedures such as angioplasty, bypass surgery etc.; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the hospitals thereto along with the penalty provisions for non-compliance of guidelines?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) & (b): The Government is aware of the reports appearing in the media from time to time about the tests and procedures being prescribed by doctors that may not necessarily be required. The Ministry has also received some communications on the subject from Hon. Members of Parliament.

(c) to (e): Health is a State subject. Any inter- vention to curb the practice of avoidable presc- riptions by doctors and ensuring quality of tests and procedures falls within the remit of the State Governments. The Government of India has, however, enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 and has also notified the Clinical Establishments (Central Government) Rules, 2012 for registration and regulation of the Clinical Establishments. The Act is presently applicable only in nine States all Union Territories except Delhi and even in those states/Union Territories its enforcement is with the State Governments. The clinical establi- shments are as per the above referred rules required to display the rates charged for each type of services provided and facilities available, at a conspicuous place in their premises both in the local language and English.