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Title : Need to extend credit facility to the retired Government employees by the empanelled hospitals under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (SRIPERUMBUDUR): The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has issued directions to all hospitals on CGHS panel to admit retired CGHS beneficiaries who are also senior citizens in cases of emergency and to extend credit facility to them.

I am to inform you that almost every hospital on CGHS panel is ignoring the above directions of the Ministry and refusing admission to retired CGHS beneficiaries on one pretext or other causing a lot of trouble to these senior citizens and retired Government servants. The retired CGHS beneficiaries, whose only source of income is their meagre pensions, are facing tremendous financial difficulties in getting emergency treatment at these hospitals. They do not admit them citing the reasons that they do not have bed to accommodate them in their hospitals. Due to emergency, the senior citizens/patients try to convince them by saying that let the hospital not extend any credit facility to them but admit them, and they will foot the bills directly to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and claim the payment directly. Now, the CGHS dispensaries invariably do not release or credit the payment into the accounts of these retired officers or senior citizens either by citing one reason or the other thus causing insurmountable problems to these retired Government servants.

It is, therefore, requested that all hospitals on CGHS panel be directed again to extend credit facility to retired CGHS beneficiaries in cases of emergency or else they may be blacklisted and action may be taken against those hospitals. In

order to have proper implementation of these instructions, a special cell be opened in the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to look into all the complaints in this regard in a time-bound manner. Besides this, steps may be taken to ensure that bills of hospitals on CGHS panel are cleared by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in time so that retired Government employees do not face any problem.