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title: Issue regarding illegal practices and exploitation involved in health sector.

*SHRI INNOCENT (CHALAKUDY) : I was not here, on my seat for some time now and many of you might have wondered where I had gone. During the past three years I was afflicted with cancer twice. I am on my feet to bring some urgent matters to your notice.

In many hospitals in our country, there are several illegal practices which are going on. If someone complains of breast pain and goes to a hospital, there are no adequate equipments to diagnose the patient.

If the patient wants to test his or her blood, they will be told that the lab equipment is out of order. Similarly, for dialysis, the equipment may be there, but would not be in working order. In this pretext he will be sent to a private diagnosis centre. The fact is that the hospital authorities and the private diagnosis centres are hand in glove to exploit the patients. Similarly, the medicines, prescribed by the government hospital doctors will not be available there and we are told to purchase them from the nearby medical shops. Here again, there is a nexus between the hospital authorities and the medical shop owners.

Similarly medicines. Medicines worth Rs.600, can be bargained and brought for Rs.300. Why this happens?

Similarly corporate houses have entered the health sector too. They construct big buildings and invests in hospitals. Thereafter, they fix a monthly target of 500 or 300 surgeries or that so many patients should undergo stent implantation, or undergo dialysis. Those targets are purely for profit making. Often the patients may not even heed a stent implantation. A common man does not know the cost of stent. The stent may cost anything between Rs.4000 to Rs.4 lakhs. So the poor in our villages do not have facilities to take a mammogram test for early detection of cancer. The facilities in government hospital are denied to them. Such exploitations, madam, must end. I had decided to speak on this issue, only to highlight the exploitation involved in our health sector.

Similarly the quality of medicines. We have to ensure, whether, even well known medicines are maintaining the same quality, which they had earlier. Similarly, medicines banned in other countries should not be circulated in India.

The poor men who elect us and send us here expects a lot from us. I remind the House, that we members should not forget our primary responsibility towards the people. It is not our responsibility to check what is cooking in some one's kitchen. Let the people eat what they want.

12.25 hours

*(At this stage, Shri Rajeev Satav and some other hon. Members
went back to their seats.)*

HON. SPEAKER: He himself is a cancer patient and he was raising some issue. That is why I allowed him. Shri Nishikant Dubey, Shri Rajesh Ranjan and Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Innocent. Now Mr. Venugopal.

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