

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to regulate price of diagnostic tests for swine influenza.

SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH VERMA (WEST DELHI): The incidence and deaths caused by swine influenza and dengue have increased in the country over the last three years.

While the Government has taken many steps at the Central level to raise awareness and guide state health departments, the issue of pricing of diagnostic tests remains unattended. Across states and cities, both governmental and private-run hospitals and laboratories have been charging patients differentially for the diagnostic tests. Broadly, government hospitals and laboratories have been conducting the tests for free, while private organisations have been charging indiscriminately. Several steps have been taken at the State level but of no avail.

I, therefore, urge the Government to formulate a national policy to uniformly regulate the pricing of the diagnostic tests for swine influenza.