

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, November 26, 1987/
Agrahayana 5, 1909 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[M.R. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Cleanliness in 'CGHS' Dispensaries and Maternity Centres

*289. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints about unhygienic condition prevailing in CGHS Maternity Centres in Delhi particularly in Sector-VI, R.K. Puram, New Delhi.

(b) if so, the remedial steps being taken in this regard; and

(c) whether similar complaints have been received about the hospitals and dispensaries under their control and if so, the steps proposed to be taken to bring the hospitals and dispensaries upto a certain level acceptable to the norms laid down by the World Health Organisation for keeping hospitals and dispensaries clean?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c). The Government is aware that the hygienic conditions at Central Government Health Scheme Maternity Hospital in Sector V, Ramakrishna Puram require improvement. The main problem relates to the unsatisfactory drainage facilities. There is frequent clogging in the

drainage system which creates dampness in the walls and un-hygienic conditions. The clogging often takes place because the patients and their relatives throw solid and semi solid unwanted material in the toilets and sinks.

There are similar problems in the case of other hospitals and dispensaries under the control of Central Government.

In the case of central Govt. Health Services, Maternity and Gynaecology Hospital, Sector V, R.K. Puram measures have been initiated to rectify the problems. On receipt of the estimates from Central Public Works Department in April, 1987 for maintenance and repairs, a provision has been made in the Revised Estimates for 87/88 and work has already started. The following action has also been taken to improve the conditions of this hospital.

- Installation of Solar Water Heating System for providing a continuous supply of hot water;
- Extra storage tank to supply water in Operation theatre and Labour room;
- Installation of water softening plant to supply soft water for high pressure autoclaves;

The Government and Directorate General of Health Services are reviewing the position in the hospitals periodically and taking necessary measures to improve the conditions with the available resources. These measures are:

- (i) Arrangement for disposal of waste and infected materials;
- (ii) Improvement in the drainage system;
- (iii) Augmentation of water supply.

The Government is aware that in the publications of World Health Organisation, certain suggestions have been made in the planning of hospital services. These include disposal of wastage and infected materials as well as providing facilities for proper disposals of sewage and sullage.

In the major hospitals at Delhi there are periodical meetings with the officers of Central Public Works Department for taking remedial steps. The pressures on the hospitals at Delhi is steadily growing and it may not be always possible for the hospitals to cope up with the growing demands for services.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that proper arrangements for cleanliness have not been made in the hospitals of Delhi and the drainage system is also not proper. But she has not replied to our question regarding the non-availability of medicines in these hospitals. As per my information, proper facilities for cleanliness are not available in the dispensaries at Jangpura, Srinivaspuri, R.K. Puram and other areas. Due to the defective drainage system, walls are affected and which is adversely affecting the patients. Along with it, the medicines recommended by doctors are also not available. In this connection, will the hon. Minister tell us to what measures are being taken to tackle this problem and various other shortcomings as well?

[*English*]

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: We are fully aware that the CGHS hospitals need a little more attention. The hon. Member was asking about the medicines. There are 215 medicines included in the formulary and against that 192 medicines are available in the CGHS dispensaries. This shows that 92 per cent of the listed medicines are available in the dispensaries, all over, and the medicines which are not included in the formulary but are prescribed by the

specialists, specially in Delhi, such medicines are purchased from the Super Bazaar and supply of such medicines is made within a period of one to three days. The Medical Officer in charge of the dispensary is also authorised to procure the formulary medicines and keep a buffer stock of 15 days' requirement, from the Super Bazaar.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, people are not able to get medicines even after taking several rounds of the hospitals. As a result, they have to waste a lot of time and face unnecessary difficulties and ultimately their suffering is prolonged. Can you not make such arrangements by which medicines could be stored in the hospital itself and distributed to the patients? Secondly, regarding the hospitals which are not under Central Government, I want to ask whether there is any proposal to bring them under the control of the Central Government? In view of the increasing population it becomes essential to ensure that proper arrangements are made in such hospitals. As facilities are not available to most of us at home, the new born and mother in confinement both go to the hospitals, but there too unhygienic conditions prevail and various other difficulties like non-availability of medicines etc. are also there. In this connection, is there any proposal to constitute a Parliamentary Committee so that the system could be streamlined?

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: The hon. Member has asked whether we will constitute a Parliamentary Committee. I don't think that we require to set up a Parliamentary Committee. The doctor incharge of the hospital is supposed to look after all such matters. In regard to the medicines, I have already stated that 92 per cent of the listed medicines are available in the dispensaries. Where such medicines are not available, a branch of Super Bazaar is attached and from where medicines are brought for distribution among the patients.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Minister is aware that in West Bengal 100 people had died because of encephalitis and now it has become an epidemic and many people are scared about this. If the State Government is not taking interest, will the hon. Minister... (*Interruptions*)

This is very serious question. Do not laugh. Sir, 100 people have died and the State Government is not doing anything. (*Interruptions*) I want to know whether the hon. Minister will send a medical team and medicines to rescue the people there (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: Today the Question in the House is on the cleanliness in CGHS dispensaries and maternity centres in Delhi. To reply to what the hon. Member is mentioning here, I need a separate question. I will definitely answer it (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Bhoi.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: One hundred people have died. Will you send a medical team there? (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE: We will get the information from the West Bengal Government and to do the needful.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: West Bengal Government will not give it (*Interruptions*)

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to seek from the Madam Minister certain clarifications. She has replied that the question is on maternity centres and not on gynaecology. What are the guidelines or criteria of the World Health Organisation? I want to know whether criteria for maintenance of maternity centres, child health care Centres or Maternity Hospitals commensurate with the Bhor Committee recommendations, which was enunciated by Pandit Jawahar-

lal Nehru and if so, what are the preventive and curative steps the government of India has taken to eradicate or curb these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): It is not possible to answer this in the Question Hour. This is a specific Question and a specific answer has been given.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the soul of a country is the health of its population and the condition of health in Delhi and right in front of the eyes of the hon. Minister is such that.....

MR. SPEAKER: Come to the specific question, leave your souls and gods aside.....

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM: I want to know from the hon. Minister regarding the hospitals or health centres set up at the block and Tehsil levels. There is not a single doctor in the hospitals at Chhota Nagpur and, therefore you should send a central team to Bihar Government and get the report.....

MR. SPEAKER: You give it in writing, I will forward your letter .

[English]

Autonomous Colleges in Orissa

*290. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of colleges in Orisa pending approval as autonomous colleges and whether any limit has been fixed for number of colleges;

(b) the number of applications which have been received from Government as well as private colleges to convert those colleges; and