

health facilities and increase in the life span, number of senior citizen has been increasing. Health being a state subject it is for the State Government to set up facilities for treatment of aged people.

So far as Central Government Hospitals are concerned, there is no separate department exclusively for elderly persons. The elderly persons are also taken care within the existing departments. However, in these hospitals, once a week OPD is being run for the elderly persons. Besides this, separate counters and priority of examination of elderly persons are available in the above hospitals.

Fleecing of patients by doctors

1253. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that two prominent cardiologists of Government hospitals allegedly colluded with medical suppliers to implant inferior heart valves in the patients or even suggested surgeries to those who did not need one and thereby putting their lives at risk;

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take against these doctors; and

(c) the measures Government propose to take so that patients would not be fleeced in future by such doctors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) No complaint regarding the implant of inferior valve to the patients has been received regarding Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital. However, complaint has been received against one Cardiologist each of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital regarding the interventional procedure (angioplasty) undertaken to the patient. The matter is being enquired into. Periodical review of such procedures are undertaken

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at both hospitals. Whenever, any complaint is received, the same is investigated and appropriate action is taken.

Vacancies in CGHS Dispensaries

1254 SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of various posts of homoeopathic/ayurvedic pharmacists lying vacant in CGHS Delhi, till date;

(b) the sanctioned strength, and actual strength of pharmacists in various CGHS homoeopathic/ayurvedic dispensaries particularly in CGHS dispensary, sector 12 R.K. Puram, New Delhi during the last three years;

(c) whether the present strength of pharmacists in the dispensaries is sufficient to cope with beneficiaries attending daily, and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to fill up vacant posts of homoeopathic pharmacist in Delhi particularly in Sector-12, R.K. Puram CGHS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) There are 4 posts of Pharmacist cum clerk (Ayurveda) and 7 posts of pharmacist cum clerk (Homoeopathy) lying vacant in CGHS Delhi, till date.

(b) The existing sanctioned strength of various post of Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic is Annexed as per statement (See below)

(c) Despite the constrains the functioning of Homoeopathy/Ayurveda dispensaries/units is being managed with the existing staff.

(d) SIU has conducted a study on the staffing norms of Homoeopathy/Ayurveda dispensaries/units and SIU has fixed the norms as per the average daily attendance. As per this study there is already surplus staff in homoeopathy dispensaries. Moreover, vacant posts are filled up according to total vacancy position and not against any particular dispensary.