

of India is in the process of formulating a Bill prescribing minimum standards and specifications for hospitals, nursing homes and other clinical establishments to ensure quality health care services. The proposed bill would lay down norms of assessment, accreditation, inspection, certification, regulation of such clinical establishments as well as maintenance of records.

Shifting of CGHS Dispensary

3961. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of beneficiaries registered with CGHS dispensary No. 74 at B-1, Janakpuri, New Delhi when it was set up and as on date giving the pace of increase;

(b) whether the matter of shifting this dispensary to a bigger rented/own building has been under Government's consideration; if so, since when and the progress of action during the past 3-5 years;

(c) whether Government have formulated any definite line of action; if so, the details; and

(d) the time-frame for its accomplishment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The CGHS dispensary No. 74, Janakpuri, was opened in June 1981 and functioned from a private rented building.

As per records that are available in the above dispensary, the number of CGHS beneficiaries registered at the dispensary during the last five years are as under:-

Year	Number of cardholders	Number of beneficiaries
2000	5420	17489
2001	5621	18043
2002	5852	18506
2003	6124	19006
2004	6472	19958

(b) to (d) There are no fixed norms that specifies the area required for the functioning of a CGHS dispensary. The rented building where the above dispensary is located is adequate for the functioning of the dispensary at present.

Chemists' Strike

3962. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether chemist designated for supply of medicines to CGHS beneficiaries through various dispensaries have gone on strike quite often;

(b) the details in this regard for Delhi during the last three years indicating the extent and period of strike and reasons therefor in each case;

(c) whether Government are aware that such strikes hit hard the old infirm retired beneficiaries who have little money/energy to spare for buying medicines in cash and thereafter struggle for claiming reimbursement; and

(d) the remedial steps proposed to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Adequate quantity of medicines is available in CGHS dispensaries. However, any drug prescribed by the specialists and not available in dispensary is made available to the beneficiary from the Authorised local Chemist on the basis of individual prescription. In the case of CGHS dispensaries which do not have any authorised local chemist attached to them, the CGHS beneficiaries (including pensioner beneficiaries) are permitted to purchase the medicines from the open market for which reimbursement is made by the Government.

The reason for the strike cited by the authorized local chemists is late payment of their bills by the CGHS Directorate. Sometimes, due to paucity of funds near the end of the financial year, additional funds are sought for clearing their bills of the CGHS Authorised local chemists. In the recent strike, the authorised CGHS chemists had also raised the issue of introduction of Value Added Tax (VAT) by the Govt, of NCT of Delhi.

Adequate funds have been allocated for clearing the pending bills of the Authorised local Chemists of CGHS.