

***Exploitation of patients by doctors***

†2072. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that doctors working in various hospitals are exploiting patients by charging fee arbitrarily and they direct patients to get the test done from outside wherein they have their own commission involved;

(b) if so, whether Government has conducted any investigation in this regard;

(c) whether Government proposes to rationalize the hospital fees and to display the details of fees on notice boards; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) Health is a State subject, no such information is maintained centrally. However, in so far as the Central Government hospitals located in Delhi viz. Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College and its associated hospitals are concerned, no fees are charged by the doctors for consultation, examination, operation and medicines except for Nursing Home patients and Maternity Nursing Home patients for investigation, room and diet as per laid down procedure.

***Expenditure on healthcare***

2073. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's health sector expenditure is 1.4 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as compared to health sector expenditure in other countries like China's 5.8 per cent, USA's 14.6 per cent and Sri Lanka's 3.7 per cent and as a result a large number of people are not getting proper healthcare;

(b) if so, whether Government is taking action to increase health sector expenditure; and

(c) whether special schemes are being started for rural women's and children's healthcare?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) According to World Health Statistics 2010 published by World Health Organization (WHO), the total expenditure on health as percentage of Gross Domestic Product in India is 4.1% as compared to total expenditure on health in respect of China — 4.3%, USA — 15.7% and Sri Lanka — 4.2% in 2007.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.