

Harassment of attendants of patients at Dr. RML hospital

†2715. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that any employee has been appointed for maintaining hygiene and sanitation of the patients admitted in ICU of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the relatives of patients are harassed time and again by calling them in ICU for sanitation works in case their patients soil the bed in the ICU of the Hospital; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) As informed by Dr. RML Hospital, sanitary workers of Dr. RML Hospital have been deployed for maintaining sanitation in the hospital ICUs. In addition to this, the services of outsourcing agency are also taken to maintain the sanitation in the hospital ICU. Nursing care of the patients in ICU is done by the staff nurses on duty and ward boys, under the supervisions of staff nurse.

The Hospital has also informed that no case of harassment of relative of patients, by calling them in ICU for sanitation work, in case their patients soil the bed in the ICU, has been reported.

Legislation for employment of nurses in private hospitals

2716. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the bonded employment of the nurses and para medical staff by the private hospitals in the country;

(b) whether Government has conducted any study on the issue;

(c) whether Government will bring a Central legislation to regulate the employment of nurses and para medical staff in the private hospitals and ensure decent pay and working condition to them; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether the Central Government will consult with the State Governments on the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes.

(b) to (d) The matter pertaining to improving and regulating the service conditions of the nurses working in the private hospitals in the country comes under the purview of the State Governments in which the private hospitals are located.

However, on the basis of matters raised in the Parliament, the debate in Public Interest Litigation Writ Petition No. 430/2011 in the Hon'ble Supreme Court and references received from various sections of society, all the State Governments have been asked, *vide* letters dated 7th July, 2010 and 24th February, 2012 to take necessary measures for enacting a comprehensive Legislation for improvement of service conditions of nurses including those working in the private sector.

Further, Indian Nursing Council has taken an initiatives and issued a circular on 23rd September, 2011 to all the State Governments stipulating that if the unethical practice of obtaining service bond/forcefully retaining the original certificate of the student comes to notice then in that event penal action would be taken against such erring institutions.

Redressal of grievances regarding treatment in hospitals

2717. SHRI RANBIR SINGH PARJAPATI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Members of Parliament write letters to the Ministers for the redressal of grievances of general public in connection with their treatment in hospitals etc.;

(b) whether the individual is not informed by the Ministry regarding the action taken to redress his/her grievance and they remain unaware of the action taken on their grievances; and

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to direct Ministries/Departments to endorse a copy to the reply sent to MPs by Ministers to the concerned individual about whom the MPs have written letters?