

Unclaimed dead-body bank

3676. SHRI KALPATARU DAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an unclaimed dead-body bank has been set up in the AIIMS, New Delhi that would serve as a training centre for the doctors of the hospitals;
- (b) whether such banks have also been set up in other States for providing surgical lessons to the new doctor;
- (c) whether it is a Centrally funded project;
- (d) whether the hospital authorities would cremate such bodies after their purpose has been served; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) No unclaimed dead body bank has been set up in All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi. However, the unclaimed dead bodies are used for training of Doctors after obtaining due permission from the competent authority (Delhi Police).

(b) and (c) Health is a State subject. No such data is being maintained in the Ministry.

(d) and (e) After the purpose of training is served, these bodies are cremated/buried by the hospital as per the normal religious customs and approved by the police authorities. The expenses are born by hospital. The documents received from cremation/burial ground are handed over to Police authority for record.

Patient welfare committees

†3677. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the presence of distinguished citizens in the patient welfare committees has a positive impact on the functioning of the committees;
- (b) if so, whether Government would consider enhancing the social responsibility of patient welfare committees and empower them further keeping in view their importance; and
- (c) whether Government would give clear directions regarding regular constitution of these committees and providing financial rights to them?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.