

**Directions to doctors to adopt cashless mode of payment**

†612. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to issue directions to doctors to receive their fee in cashless mode in order to prevent the hoarding of black money; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) and (b) As per the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002, a physician should clearly display his fees and other charges on the board of his chamber and/or the hospitals he is visiting. Further, a physician should announce his fees before rendering service and not after the operation or treatment is under way and remuneration received for such services should be in the form and amount specifically announced to the patient at the time the service is rendered.

**Mortality rate of infants**

†613. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost seven lakh infants die every year in the country including rural areas of Maharashtra due to such diseases which are curable;

(b) whether pneumonia is the biggest cause of deaths of infants;

(c) if so, the total number of deaths of infants in the last three years, State-wise details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to prevent deaths of infants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) According to Sample Registration System bulletin released by Registrar General of India in 2015, Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) of India is 37 per thousand live births and the Infant Mortality Rate of Maharashtra is 21 per thousand live births.

(b) As per the Sample Registration Report (SRS) of Registrar General of India, 17.1% of infant deaths are attributed to pneumonia and pneumonia ranks second in terms of Infant Mortality.

---

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.