

**Increase in diagnosis charges at AIIMS, New Delhi**

†448. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has issued direction towards enhancement of various diagnosis charges at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government, in view of growing number of OPD patients from Delhi and outside coming for treatment at AIIMS, New Delhi, is considering to upgrade the OPD and introduce some additional system so that patients could avail treatment facilities easily and without spending too much money and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) No.

(b) To address the increasing patient load, Government has approved a separate new OPD Block at AIIMS, New Delhi.

**Interference of State Governments in managing of State Waqf Boards**

449. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many directions have been issued by the Central Waqf Council to the State Waqf Boards with regard to the functioning and removal of encroachments after the Waqf Act, 2013 came into force;

(b) whether it is a fact some of the State Waqf Boards are being managed directly by the State Governments which is illegal as per the Waqf Amendment Act, 2013, if so, which are those States; and

(c) what action Government has taken or proposes to take against such States which have failed to hold elections for the Waqf Boards despite elections being due?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) The Central Waqf Council (CWC) has been taking up the enforcement of Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2013 with the State Governments and the State Waqf Boards so that provisions of the Waqf Act are implemented including the provision relating to

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

functioning of State Waqf Board and removal of encroachment etc. After the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2013 came into force, issues of implementation of Waqf Act including the functioning and encroachment have been taken up with the State Governments and State Waqf Boards from time to time on 01.09.2015, 07.09.2015, 28.12.2015, 27.07.2016 and 25.04.2017.

(b) and (c) There is no provision in the Waqf Act under which a State Government can manage the Waqf Board directly. However, some of the States appoint an Administrator temporarily to cover up the vacuum when the reconstitution of Waqf Board is delayed or the Board is superseded under Section 99 of the Waqf Act.

**Lowering of age limit for reserved category for Haj pilgrimage**

450. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the reserved category for four time applicants has been removed for the next Haj season, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) what is the basis for fixing 70 years age criteria for confirmed reserved category;

(c) whether it implies that those below 70 years age are healthy enough to wait for next year; and

(d) whether Government has plans to reduce the age limit in this confirmed category, considering the various representations of the senior citizens?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) to (c) The Ministry has constituted a Haj Policy Review Committee (HPRC) to review Haj policies of the Government for Haj 2013-17 and to suggest framework for new Haj policies for next five years. Based on recommendations of the Committee and suggestions received from various quarters/stakeholders, the new Haj Policy for Haj Committee of India Pilgrims for Haj 2018-22 has been approved. As per the new Haj policy for HCol pilgrims, the reserved category of 70+ applicants has been retained as per the previous policy. However, the reserved category of fourth time applicants has been removed as per the recommendations of the Committee.

(d) There is no proposal, at present, to reduce the age limit of the reserved category of 70+ applicants.