

Data transfer of digital health records

2645. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced any legislation on healthcare to ensure data transfer of digital health records of patients between hospitals, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the mechanisms introduced to safeguard the data security and privacy of patients and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) and (b) MoHFW had drafted a “Digital Information Security in Healthcare, act (DISHA act)” with objective to ensure data privacy, confidentiality, reliability and security of digital health data. This Ministry forwarded the draft legislation to Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) for seeking their inputs and guidance.

In response, it was informed that MeitY is in process of enacting ‘Data Protection Framework on Digital Information Privacy, Security and Confidentiality’ Act, which would be applicable in all domains including health. This act would provide the framework for Ministry to utilize the patient data in programmes in a secured manner.

Therefore, the Ministry submitted the draft DISHA Act to MeitY to be subsumed in the upcoming ‘Data Protection Framework on Digital Information Privacy, Security and Confidentiality’ Act to avoid the duplicacy of effort.

Coverage of AES under Ayushman Bharat

2646. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was assistance provided to the children who survived and/ or are undergoing treatment of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) in Bihar, under the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof, if not reasons therefor;

(c) whether the disease can be covered under the above mentioned scheme; and

(d) the measures Government is taking to ensure capacity building of hospitals in districts across the country in order to ensure they are not ill-equipped to handle crises such as AES?