GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1877
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02nd August, 2022

MAKING FACILITIES AVAILABLE FOR MEDICAL TESTS

1877. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI:

Will the **MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the pathology and diagnostic centres heavily charge for various test reports in connection with medical treatments;

(b) whether Government has any plan for the establishment of its diagnostic centres to provide facilities at concessional rates to the masses;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government is aware that the diagnostic facilities including MRI, Ultrasound and X-Rays are not properly maintained in Government hospitals forcing the patients to go to private centres?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a) The Government of India has enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 and notified Clinical Establishments (Central Government) Rules, 2012 for registration and regulation of clinical establishments in the country. In the States /UTs where the said Act is in force, the clinical establishments are required to meet the norms such as minimum standards of facilities and services, minimum requirement of personnel, maintenance of records and reports and displaying of rates at a conspicuous place. The clinical establishments are also required to follow Standard Treatment Guidelines issued by the Central/State Governments and charge rates for each type of procedure and service within the range of rates. The National Council for Clinical Establishments has developed a standard list of medical procedures and a standard template for costing medical procedures and shared the same with the

States and Union Territories. The implementation and enforcement of the said Act is within the purview of the State/UT Governments.

It is within the domain of the State/Union Territory Government to frame guidelines/protocols to determine the prices of various diagnostic/pathology tests charged by private clinical establishments and to take appropriate measures to check fraudulent practices under the appropriate statutory provisions applicable in the respective State/UT.

(b) to (d) States / Union Territories establish their diagnostic centres to provide facilities at concessional rates to the masses. However, Government of India under the National Health Mission has launched the Free Essential Diagnostics Initiative to address the high out of pocket expenditure on diagnostics and improve quality of healthcare services. Under Ayushman Bharat- Health and Wellness Centres in the country provide a wide range of diagnostic services aimed at providing comprehensive primary healthcare close to the community. Further, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) provides cashless cover of up to INR 5,00,000 (Rupees Five Lakh) to each eligible family per annum for listed secondary and tertiary care conditions which cover diagnostic and laboratory investigations also.

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