

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 917  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025**

**DISPUTES BETWEEN PATIENTS AND DOCTORS**

**917 # DR. LAXMIKANT BAJPAYEE:**

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

- (a) whether the disputes between doctors and patients are increasing day by day due to various reasons and issues which sometimes turn into grave situations in hospitals and clinics;
- (b) the specific mechanism /act /law Government has at present to resolve such disputes /assaults; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to devise an appropriate mechanism/health services tribunal to resolve such disputes/assaults between patients and doctors or health services professionals in a timely and adequate manner?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY  
WELFARE  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (c): 'Health' and 'Law & Order' being State subjects, it is the primary responsibility of the concerned State/ UT to take note of disputes between doctors and patients including assaults against medical professionals. The data in this regard is not maintained centrally. Many States have enacted laws to address assaults against medical professionals. Most of the State laws cover minor offences and prescribe punishment for them. Major offences/ heinous crimes are adequately covered under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023. The State laws have adequate provisions to address day-to-day minor offences and serious offences can be addressed under BNS, 2023.

Taking cognizance of recent incidents of assaults against medical professionals, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India constituted a National Task Force (NTF) for formulating effective recommendations to remedy the issues of concern pertaining to safety, working conditions and well-being of medical professionals and other related matters. The NTF has submitted its report to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

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