

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:364
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003
SHORTAGE OF DRUGS IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS
SUBODH ROY;V. VETRISILVAN

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware that emergency departments of Government hospitals run by Central or State Governments are short of basic drugs, viz. intravenous fluids and even bandages;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether patients are asked to purchase medicines from outside for their treatment in emergency departments;
- (d) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)to(e): Health being a State subject, it is the responsibility of respective State Government to provide basic drugs in the emergency departments of Government hospitals run by the State Governments.

So far as Central Government hospitals are concerned, there is no shortage of basic drugs including intravenous fluids and bandages in the emergency departments. All the essential and vital medicines as per the Hospital formulary are available in emergency departments. The provision of local purchase for non-availability drugs, for poor patients, in emergency condition, is also available.