DMC/14/2/Comp.14/2002/L-8172

Deptt. of Health & Family Welfare
Govt. of NCT of Delhi
9th Level, A-Wing,
Delhi Sachivalaya,
New Delhi – 110 002

Sub: Board of Enquiry to investigate alleged negligence in case of Late Deepak Siddhu
s/o Shri Trilok Siddhu, an accident victim


Kindly refer to your letter No. F.342/51/2001/H&FW/7169 dated 4.1.2002 on the subject cited above, the Delhi Medical Council has examined the complaint of alleged medical negligence on the part of doctors of Deen Dayal Upadhayay Hospital into the death of Late Deepak Siddhu, an accident victim. A copy of the recommendations of the Board of Inquiry is enclosed herewith for your information and necessary action.

(Signed)
(Dr. S.K. Khattri)
Deputy Registrar & Secretary

May 16, 2002
Recommendations – Board of Inquiry examining the Complaint of Mr. Trilok Siddhu

The Board of Inquiry examined the complaint of alleged medical negligence on the part of doctors of Deen Dayal Upadhayay Hospital into the death of Late Deepak Siddhu, an accident victim who was initially admitted to Deen Dayal Upadhayay Hospital on 22nd June, 2000 and was later on transferred to Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital at 1.30 P.M. the same day where he succumbed to his injuries. The patient died on 22nd June, 2000 at 3.30 P.M. The Board comprised of the following Members:

1. Prof. Ranjit Roy Chaudhury 
   Chairperson & President, Delhi Medical Council
2. Prof. P.K. Dave 
   Vice-President, Delhi Medical Council
3. Prof. Kusum Sahgal 
   Chairperson, Code of Ethics Committee, Delhi Medical Council
4. Dr. Harish Grover 
   Chairman, Disciplinary Committee, Delhi Medical Council
5. Late Dr. Phanidhar – Gastroenterologist participated till 8th September, 2001
6. Dr. A.K. Banerjee – Neuro Surgeon
7. Prof. C.S. Chuttani – Participated in the meeting of 26th February, 2002
   Chairperson, Continuing Medical Education Committee, Delhi Medical Council

The Board held its meetings on 29th June, 2001, 27th July, 2001, 8th September, 2001 & 26th February, 2002. The Board examined Mr. Trilok Siddhu and his witnesses on 27th July, 2001 and received their written statements. The doctors who were alleged in the complaint are as follows:

1. Dr. Vivek Kumar Sharma
2. Dr. Rajender Kumar Beniwal
3. Dr. Reena Garg
4. Dr. J.P. Gupta

These doctors were given several opportunities to present their side of the case, however, none of the doctors other than Dr. J.P. Gupta presented themselves. Dr. J.P. Gupta in his written statement dated 26th July, 2001 submitted that he did not attend to the patient at all. Dr. J.D. Simon, Jr. Casualty in Deen Dayal Upadhayay Hospital at the time of incident was also summoned along with Shri Gopi Singh, the driver who escorted the deceased late Deepak Siddhu when he was shifted from Deen Dayal Upadhayay Hospital on 22nd June, 2000. Dr. J.D. Simon failed to appear before the Delhi Medical Council. Shri Gopi Singh presented himself and stated that he could not recall any of the facts of the case. Service of notice was complete in respect of all the above named doctors. The Board examined the case papers submitted by Deen Dayal Upadhayay Hospital, the case papers from Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital which were received on 3rd October, 2001 and the complaint of Mr. Trilok Siddhu along with the written statements of the witnesses of Mr. Trilok Siddhu the father of the deceased.

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Based on the documents on record, it was observed that there is discrepancy about the time of the admission in Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital which has been stated as 10.45 A.M. by the complainant and as per the FIR the time of occurrence of the accident is 11.30 A.M. and as per the hospital records the time of admission of the patient in Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital is 12.35 P.M on 22.06.2000. The clinical picture of the patient is suggestive of head injury since the patient was deeply unconscious with dilated pupils. This has been corroborated both at the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital and subsequently at Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital. There is no indication of the patient being in shock except at Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital where there is a record of blood pressure being 90/60 mg. It seems every effort was made by the treating doctors to treat the patient energetically and to transfer him for CT Scan within a reasonable time. There is a systemic failure which is manifest as a non-functioning CT Scan which was not connected to an emergency stand-by generator.

Prof. Ranjit Roy Chaudhury
Prof. P.K. Dave
Dr. A.K. Banerjee
Dr. Harish Grover

Prof. Kusum Sahgal
Prof. C.S. Chuttani