

Bill against assault on doctors to be tabled

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A legislation seeking to punish those who assault on-duty doctors and other healthcare professionals is almost ready and will be tabled in Parliament in the upcoming winter session, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said.

“Attacks on doctors are something that cannot be ignored. A central law is required to put a curb on this disturbing trend,” he said. He said the draft Bill will soon be released for feedback from the public before being taken to the Union Cabinet. “We have already consulted some stakeholders and now the ministry is working on giving a final contour to the draft Bill,” Vardhan said.

As per the draft Bill, those “grievously hurting” doctors and other healthcare professionals at clinical establishments may face imprisonment of 3-10 years and a fine between ₹2 lakh and ₹10 lakh.