

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:51
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2004
ERADICATION OF CANCER
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that cases of cancer are rapidly increasing in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of cancer cases detected during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government provided necessary assistance and medicines for cancer patients;
- (d) whether the medicines for cancer in the country are costlier;
- (e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to control/minimise the prices of medicines;
- (f) whether the Government has any proposal to develop and modernize the Cancer Research Centres in the country;
- (g) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (h) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to control this disease?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(h): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 51 FOR 7TH JULY, 2004

As per information collected by the Population Based Cancer Registries functioning under the National Cancer Registry Programme of Indian Council of Medical Research, it has been estimated that about 7-9 lakh new cancer cases are detected every year and at any given point of time there are 2-2.5 million cancer patients in the country. This data does not indicate any significant increase in the incidence rate of cancer of all sites combined together. Data regarding number of Cancer cases detected State-wise is not centrally maintained.

Health being a State subject, it is the responsibility of the State Government to provide treatment facilities to the Cancer Patients. However, the Central Government is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial assistance for setting up of Radiotherapy Units in Government Medical Colleges/Hospitals for providing treatment facilities and recurring grants to recognized Regional Cancer Centres in the States for procurement of equipments and for research. The Central Government is also contributing to the State National Illness Assistance Fund for providing treatment to needy and poor patients under the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi. Though the prices of Anti-cancer drugs are not controlled by the Government under the provisions of the Drugs Price Control Order, 1995, the Anti-Cancer Drugs which are mostly imported have been put in the list of life saving drugs and are exempted from Customs Duty.

This Ministry has recognized 20 Regional Cancer Centres (RCC) in different States/UTs to render comprehensive treatment and undertake research activities in the field of cancer. A list of the RCCs is annexed. These RCCs are at present given recurring financial assistance for procurement of equipment and for conducting research. It is proposed to recognize new RCCs in the States where they are not recognized at present and more RCCs in populous States and to provide financial assistance to RCCs for infrastructure development during the 10th Plan.

As cancer can be cured if detected at early stage, emphasis is being laid on early detection and treatment through the District Cancer Control Programme (DCCP) of the National Cancer Control Programme. Further, since Cancer is related to life style like consumption of Tobacco products etc., awareness among the masses is being created on various aspects of cancer through electronic and print media.

ANNEXURE

LIST OF RCCs

Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital, Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram
Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh

Chittaranjan National Cancer Gujarat Cancer Research Institute,
Institute, Kolkata, West Bengal Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Kidwai Memorial Institute of MNJ Institute of Oncology, Hyderabad,
Oncology, Bangalore, Karnataka Andhra Pradesh

Regional Cancer Institute (WIA), Pondicherry Regional Cancer Society,
Adyar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu JIPMER, Pondicherry

Acharya Harihar Regional Cancer, Dr. B.B. Cancer Institute, Guwahati, Assam
Centre for Cancer Research &
Treatment, Cuttack, Orissa

Regional Cancer Control Society Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai, Maharashtra
Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

Cancer Hospital & Research Centre, Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical
Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh Sciences, Patna, Bihar

Indian Rotary Cancer Institute Acharya Tulsi Regional Cancer Trust & Research

(A.I.I.M.S.), New Delhi Institute (RCC) Bikaner, Rajasthan

R.S.T. Hospital & Research Regional Cancer Centre,
Centre, Nagpur, Maharashtra Pt. B.D. Sharma Post Graduate
Institute of Medical Sciences, Rohtak, Haryana.

Pt. J.N.M. Medical College, Civil Hospital, Aizawl, Mizoram.
Raipur, Chhatisgarh