

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4777
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2010
CANCER MEDICINES AND DEVICES
Meinya Dr. Thokchom;Shanavas Shri M. I.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to subsidise cancer medicines in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make the treatment of cancer available at an affordable cost;
- (d) whether any proposal is also under the consideration of the Government to provide devices such as medical linear accelerators at a subsidised rates to various Government hospitals and cancer research institutes across the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN)

(a) to (c) : This Ministry has recognized 27 Regional Cancer Centres under the National Cancer Control Programme in various States/UTs for carrying out research activity and providing cost effective treatment to the poor and needy cancer patients. In addition free or subsidized treatment is provided to cancer patients in Government institutions in the health care delivery system.

Department of Pharmaceuticals has already taken up the matter with Department of Revenue of exemption of all anti cancer drugs from custom duty/counter veiling duty.

(d) & (e) : Under the existing National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP), the Central Government is supplementing the efforts of the State Government by providing financial assistance to Government Medical Colleges/Institutions. Financial assistance up to Rs. 3.00 crore is provided for setting up Radiotherapy Units in Government Medical Colleges/Hospitals for providing treatment facilities. A one time financial assistance of Rs. 5.00 crore is also provided to Government Medical Colleges/Hospitals which are recognized as new Regional Cancer Centre for upgrading the facilities including civil construction and purchase of equipments.