

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4995
ANSWERED ON:02.09.2011
ICMR STUDY ON BHOPAL GAS VICTIMS
Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

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

- (a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has conducted any study on cancer patterns in Methyl Isocyanate (MIC) affected and unaffected areas of Bhopal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the main findings of the study;
- (c) whether cancer cases have more than trippled among men and doubled among women in the above affected areas of Bhopal;
- (d) if so, the facts in this regard; and
- (e) the corrective measures taken/proposed by the Government for the medical care and treatment of affected people in the above areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a) & (b): A detailed report "Cancer in Bhopal: Comparison of Cancer Patterns in MIC Affected and Unaffected Areas (1988-2007)" was prepared in November 2010. The main findings of the study are: for all anatomical sites of cancer in both males and females, the overall age adjusted rate was higher in the affected area. In males, cancers of anatomical sites associated with the use of tobacco showed a higher incidence rate in the affected areas as compared to the unaffected area. Thus cancers for the tongue, mouth, hypopharynx, cesophagus and lung showed a higher incidence in the affected area as compared at the MIC unaffected area. However, when the tobacco habits of the populations in the two areas were taken into account the higher rate observed in the MIC affected area as essentially neutralized. Among females, a higher incidence of cancer of the cervix was observed in the affected area and a higher incidence of cancer of the breast was seen in the unaffected area.

(c) & (d): No. The increase in 2007 as compared to 1988 is 2.15 (males) and 2.66 (females) times.

(e): Government of Madhya Pradesh has been providing complete treatment free of cost to all the gas affected cancer patients. Once the provisional diagnosis is made at the level of hospitals functioning under Gas Relief Department of the State, Government such cases are being referred to Jawaharlal Nehru Cancer Hospital and Research Centre, Bhopal (a private hospital, recognized by the State Government). The expenditure required for the treatment of such patients is reimbursed by the State Government.