

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2017

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2011

CANCER CASES

Abdulrahman Shri ;Antony Shri Anto;Badal Harsimrat Kaur;Bajwa Shri Partap Singh;Baske Shri Pulin Bihar;Bhujbal Shri Sameer ;Dhanaplan Shri K. P.;Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Dhurve Jyoti;Gandhi Smt. Maneka Sanjay;Kashyap Shri Virender;Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Pathak Shri Harin;Ramasubbu Shri S.;Shantha J.;Singh Shri Vijay Bahadur;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh;Vinay Kumar Alias Vinnu Shri

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the increasing number of cancer cases due to various reasons including indiscriminate use of pesticides and presence of heavy metals and nitrate in ground and drinking water across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the estimated number of cancer patients and the number of cancer cases and deaths there form recorded during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UTwise;
- (c) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has recommended to make cancer a notifiable disease like many other countries so that every case is reported and cared for;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken/proposed thereon; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to bring in a comprehensive cancer control mechanism by expanding cancer prevention, diagnosis, affordable treatment and palliation network across the country?

Answer

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

- (a) Scientific studies show that heavy metals such as arsenic are known to cause cancer. Data regarding the number of cancer patients due to use of pesticides in farming and presence of heavy metals in drinking water is not centrally maintained.
- (b) Based on the latest 'Three- Year- Report of Population Based Cancer Registries 2006-2008 of National Cancer Registry Programme' under the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the number of incidence, prevalent cases and annual deaths due to cancer are about 10 lakh, 28 lakh, and 5 lakh respectively. The state-wise data is not centrally maintained.
- (c) No.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) The Government of India has launched a comprehensive National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases & Stroke (NPCDCS) last year. The new programme envisages implementation in 100 districts across 21 States, during 2010-12. Under NPCDCS, the district hospitals would provide diagnostic services, basic surgery, chemotherapy and palliative care. The district hospitals have also been funded to provide chemotherapy drugs required for cancer patients to treat 100 patients per district @ Rs. 1.00 lakh per patient. The revised programme also envisages setting up of 65 Tertiary Cancer Centres (TCCs) at Government Medical Colleges including erstwhile Regional Cancer Centres. These TCCs are eligible for financial assistance upto Rs. 6.00 crore (Rs. 4.80 crore from Central Government and Rs.1.20 crore from State Government) for strengthening cancer care facilities. The Government had also set up a "Health Minister's Cancer Patient Fund (CPF) to provide financial assistance to Below Poverty Line (BPL) cancer patients.