

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:260

ANSWERED ON:20.11.2009

RISE IN CASES OF CANCER

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

- (a) the total number of deaths caused by cancer during the last two years, State/ UT-wise;
- (b) whether as per Indian Council of Medical Research's (ICMRs) latest report, fresh cases of cancer annually among men may increase to 5.34 lakh and the country witness 87000 additional cases of cancer every year by 2020;
- (c) if so, the details, the findings of this Study Report;
- (d) whether around 30% of all cancer cases in the country are caused by smoking or chewing tobacco which leads to lung or mouth cancer;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken in this regard;
- (f) whether the Government has set up a National Cancer Fund to combat the disease; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and further steps proposed to be taken by the Government to eradicate the disease from the country?

**Answer**

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

(a): Health being a state subject, such information is not centrally maintained. However, estimates from Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) indicate that about 4.62 lakh and 4.71 lakh deaths in India were due to cancer in 2008 and 2009 (as on date) respectively.

(b) & (c): According to the latest report of National Cancer Registry Programme, Indian Council of Medical Research on 'Time trends in Cancer Incidence Rates (1982-2005)', the estimated number of cancer cases for males and females respectively for the year 2008 are 4.47 lakh and 4.98 lakh. The number is estimated to increase by 0.87 lakh and 1.16 lakh respectively by the year 2020. Accordingly the estimated number of cases during the year 2020 is 5.34 lakh and 6.14 lakh cases for males and females respectively.

(d): According to the recent reports on hospital & population based cancer registries of ICMR (2004-2006), around 30% of all cancer cases in the country are caused by smoking of tobacco. Tobacco associated with causation of cancer including lungs and mouth cancer.

(e to g): Health being a state subject, it is for various State Governments to ensure that adequate facilities for early detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer are made available. The Central Government is also supplementing the efforts of the State Government by providing financial assistance for setting up Radiotherapy Unit in Government Medical colleges/hospitals for providing treatment facilities. In addition, the comprehensive cancer detection and management facilities including testing facilities in respective regions/states is provided by 27 Regional Cancer Centres across the country. The treatment of cancer is either free or subsidized in the Government institutions. The Government has set up the "Health Minister's Cancer Patient Fund (CPF) to provide financial assistance to Below Poverty Line (BPL) cancer patients.