

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:169

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2013

TREATMENT OF CANCER PATIENTS

Baske Shri Pulin Bihar;Venugopal Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the number of medical oncologists and other specialists are adequate to deal with the rising number of cancer cases in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of medical institutes offering Medical Council of India (MCI)-approved speciality courses in oncology including the number of seats therein;
- (c) if not, the corrective measures taken/proposed by the Government/MCI in this regard;
- (d) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is evolving standards of care and treatment protocols for various types of cancer in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the extent to which the cancer patients are likely to be benefited from this?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.169 FOR 8TH MARCH, 2013

(a) to (c) No, Madam. Presently the number of institutions offering Medical Council of India (MCI) approved specialty courses in oncology is as under:

1) 13 institutions granting degree in Surgical Oncology with an annual intake capacity of 56 seats.

2) 12 institutions granting degree in DM Oncology with an annual intake capacity of 46 seats.

3) 59 institutions granting degree in M D Radiotherapy with an annual intake of 157 seats. To increase the number of seats in Super speciality courses in Medical Oncology, Surgical Oncology and broad speciality course in Radiotherapy, the ratio of number of Post-Graduate teachers to the number of students to be admitted has been now increased to 1:3 for a Professor subject to a maximum of 6 PG seats per unit per academic year.

(d) & (e) A task force has been constituted by Indian Council of Medical Research to develop consensus document for guidelines appropriate for the country regarding management and treatment of various sites of cancer. Given the nature of the subject, time-lines for finalization of the guidelines cannot be specified. However, it is expected that greater knowledge relevant in the Indian context on different aspects of cancer would benefit the cancer patients in India.