

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2027
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2013
PALLIATIVE CARE
Pradhan Shri Nityananda

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

- (a) whether there is limited access to quality palliative care services to the majority of people in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the percentage of people who have access to palliative care and the activities undertaken thereunder;
- (c) the details of the recommendations made by the Expert Group constituted to work out the strategies for palliative care in the country and the follow up action taken/proposed by the Government thereon;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to launch a national programme on palliative care and open palliative care centres in various districts of the country during the 12th Five Year Plan; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the operational and financial modalities worked out for the purpose?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Palliative Care services are undertaken in National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases & Stroke (NPCDCS). There is no vertical programme for Palliative Care in the country.

30 districts were selected in 2010-11 and 70 districts in 2011-12 for central financial assistance under the NPCDCS for taking up basic Cancer Care including Palliative Care Services.

(c) The Expert Group report on strategies for Palliative Care in India has recommended to start Palliative Care cells and reserve beds for Palliative Care in Government Medical Colleges and District Hospitals. Under the NPCDCS there is a provision for providing financial assistance to the States for various activities including for Palliative Care in District Hospitals.

The Government of India has also released financial assistance to the Governments of Kerala, Tamilnadu and Maharashtra in their programme implementation plans under NRHM.

(d)& (e) This has not been decided.