

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2704
ANSWERED ON:07.02.2014
AFFORDABLE TREATMENT OF DIABETIC PATIENTS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) has developed low cost testing products including strips and readers for diabetes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which these are likely to be made available to the people in the country; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to ensure easy availability of necessary medicines and devices including glucometer at affordable cost to all the diabetic patients across the country?

Answer

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

(a) & b): ICMR has informed that they have supported 2 investigators at the Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai and at Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani (Hyderabad Campus) which have resulted in development of 2 indigenous devices and testing strips for estimation of blood glucose. These devices would be available to people in the next 6-12 months.

(c): Under the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) of this Ministry, Glucometers, Glucostrips and Lancets are provided to NCD Clinics for opportunistic screening for diabetes among the population above 30 year of age. Further, under NPCDCS, every District NCD clinic is provided Rs. 6.00 lakh per annum under the Head "Drugs and Consumables".

As on date, 5.33 crore persons have been screened, out of which, 6.13% are found suspected of diabetes.

During 12th Five Year Plan, the programme aims to cover all districts in the country.