GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:865 ANSWERED ON:27.02.2015 CANCER CASES

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

- (a) the estimated number of cancer patients along with the number of cancer cases and attributable deaths reported in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether as per some recent studies/ reports, cancer survival rates in India are among the lowest in the world, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government for the prevention, early detection/ diagnosis and affordable treatment of cancer along with the funds allocated and spent for the purpose during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether there is shortage of cancer specialists and diagnostic/treatment facilities for effective management of cancer cases in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of cancer specialists and the action plan drawn by the Government to set up more advance cancer treatment and diagnostic centres in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a): As per data provided by National Cancer Registry Programme of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the estimated incidence, prevalence and mortality due to Cancer in the country for the last three years is as under:

2011 2012 2013 Incidence 1028503 1057204 1086783 Prevalence 2819457 2820179 2934314 Mortality 452541 46516 478180

(b): The cancer survival rate is generally believed to depend upon among others, stage at diagnosis, stage of initiation of treatment, type and site of Cancer, correct and complete treatment. There is no recent data available on the survival rate of Cancer patients. As per data provided by ICMR, the survival rate is as under:

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Registry Period of No. of Cases 1 year 3 years 5 years study sites
Bhopal 1991-1995 16 1863 62.3 35.6 27.9
Chennai 1990-1999 20 22598 55.3 34.0 27.4
Karunagapally 1993-2001 22 1601 59.3 34.3 25.4
Mumbai 1992-1999 28 46162 55.2 36.1 28.1
Pooled over 72224 55.5 35.4 27.8
all Registries
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Table 1. Percentage Survival of Cases by Different

(Source) Sankaranarayan R and Swaminathan R (2011): Cancer Survival in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Central America, IARC Scientific Publications No. 162

(c) to (e): Government of India had launched a comprehensive National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke (NPCDCS) in 2010 with focus on 3 types of cancer namely breast, cervical and oral cancer. From 2013-14 onwards, interventions under NPCDCS for prevention, early detection, diagnosis and treatment of Cancer, which can be taken up upto District level, have been brought under the umbrella of National Health Mission. The treatment of Cancer patients in various Government Hospitals is either free or subsidized both for the Central and State Government Hospitals. In addition to Cancer diagnosis and treatment by the State Gover- nment Health Institutes, the Central government Insti- tutions such as All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Safdurjung Hospital, Dr ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, PGIMER Chandigarh, JIPMER Puducherry, Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata, etc. provide facilities for diagnosing and treatment of Cancer. The Government of India under "Strengthening of Tertiary Care of Cancer" scheme of NPCDCS will assist 20 State Cancer Institutes (SCIs) and 50 Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCC) in different parts of the country. The maximum assistance inclusive of State share for SCI is Rs.120 crores and for TCCC is Rs.45 crores. The state- ments showing the releases of funds under the NPCDCS and TCCC scheme during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise are placed at Annexure-I and II. There is no central data available to ascertain the quantum of shortage of cancer specialists in the country. However, to increase the number of seats in courses in Medical Oncology, Surgical Oncology and broad specialty course in Radiotherapy, the ratio of number of Post- Graduate (PG) 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. Cancer can be diagnosed and treated at various levels in the Government health care system. However, the number of Teletherapy machines in the country is less than the norms of WHO and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Oncology in its various aspects has focus in case of new AIIMS and many upgraded institutions under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY). The National Cancer Institute at Jhajjar and 2nd campus of Chittranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata also have a mandate for capacity building. The mandate of State Cancer Institutes (SCI) and Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCC) supported under National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke (NPCDCS) includes enhancing of trained manpower for Cancer in addition to capacity building.