Title: Need to declare Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Karnataka as a National Cancer Institute-Laid.

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA (HASSAN): The Government of Karnataka took over the Society in 1970. This Institute started functioning with 50 patient beds during 1973. It was conferred "Autonomous Status" in January, 1980. It became a Regional Centre for Cancer Research and Treatment. There is a phenomenal growth of this Institute during the last two decades. New cases patient load was 4,201 in 1980 and this number rose to 12,358 in 2000. The total number of patients followed-up in 1999 was 1.80 lakhs. This Institute started with 50 beds and now it has 375 beds. It is serving as a referral institute.

It has developed schemes like Cancer Drug Foundation, Care Against Tumour (CAT), Karnataka Cancer Control and District Cancer Control Programmes. Anti-Tobacco Cell, etc. KMIO has several graduate and post-graduate academic courses with special attention towards research activities.

I urge upon the hon. Prime Minister to immediately make this Centre of excellence a National Cancer Institute fully supported and financed by the Government of India.