

Title:Need to take concrete steps to control tuberculosis in the country- Laid.

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH(NAGAR KURNOOL) : Five lakh people die of tuberculosis every year in India. One of the major problems with TB is that the treatment is long and potent drugs have to be taken for six to eight months. The chances of patients stopping medicine while undergoing treatment are high, particularly after 2 months of treatment, when signs of recovery are visible. That is why TB control has failed in spite of providing free detection and treatment centre of TB in Government hospitals and primary health centres.

I request the Government that before getting out of control, TB should be controlled through strict watch on patients being administered medicines under direct supervision so that they do not default on taking regular machine. This is called the DOTS or Direct Observation Treatment Short course method that has been the most successful modes of treatment globally as patient has to consume medicine in front of the health provider.

I hope the Government will take every step to control TB and ensure financial assistance for patients living below the poverty line in the country.