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Title: Need to ensure easy availability of cancer treatment drugs and pain killers to all the cancer patients at affordable price throughout the country.

SHRI A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): India has the largest number of cancer patients in the world and majority of them are poor even to buy the life saving drugs and the pain killers. Many of the pain killers used by the patients at a terminal stage are derivatives of opioids. But these medicines are very costly and hence not easily available to the poor patients. This is very cruel and violation of the fundamental right to live. A number of medical organizations specialized in palliative care and cancer treatment have already requested the Government of India to find a remedy for this matter.

Hence I urge upon the Government of India to provide the cancer treatment drugs at affordable price including the pain killers to all the cancer patients throughout the country.