

have to see whether there is any other kind of method for relieving this pressure. That we will have to see after observing how this new method works for a few months. As you know, it has been introduced only from the 1st of November.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :
Sir, the Minister has pointed out that in order to alleviate the sufferings of the overseas Indians these rules are brought in. Now, one of the biggest headaches for overseas Indians (which I think the Minister should try to remove) is the fact that the passport is valid only for 3 years. And no visa is allowed by any country unless the passport is valid for more than 6 months as the time of application. May I know whether the Minister would consider amending these rules further to make the passport valid for 10 years so that this additional bureaucratic work of renewing passport over and over again could be avoided? This is what really overseas Indians want. Would the hon. Minister consider that?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO ;
This question is not connected necessarily with overseas Indians. This is a limited matter. But naturally we will consider if there is any particular advantage in making it a 10-Year passport. But I cannot make any assurance because that may have its own inconvenience, its own difficulties. All the same, I will certainly get it examined.

Cancer Research and Treatment Programme

*143. **SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA-DASAN :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government of India have finalised the Cancer Research and Treatment Programme to be taken up with the Central assistance for implementation during the Sixth Five Year Plan ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether Government have included the proposal of Government of Kerala regarding the development of the Cancer unit of the Medical College, Trivendrum as a Regional Cancer Centre in this ; and

(d) if not, when it will be finalised and included ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE I THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. Decisions regarding the implementation of the Programme have been taken.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Depending upon the availability of Plan funds and the fulfilment of the prescribed conditions by the concerned States/Union Territories, financial assistance is provided for :—

I. The development of existing Cancer Institutes into Regional Cancer Research and Treatment Centres. It has been tentatively decided that, depending upon the satisfaction of prescribed conditions by the concerned States/Union Territories, financial assistance may be afforded to the following institutions :

1. Chitranjan National Cancer Research Centre, Calcutta.
2. Cancer Institute, Madras.
3. Institute-Rotary Cancer Hospital, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi
4. Cancer Hospital and Research Institute, Gwalior.
5. S. C. B. Medical College Hospital, Cuttack.
6. Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute, Ahmedabad.
7. Dr. B. B. Cancer Institute, Gauhati.
8. Cancer Wing of the Medical College Hospital, Trivendrum
9. Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore.

II. Assistance of Rs. 10.00 lakhs in each case will be afforded to the States/Institutions for installation of Cobalt Therapy Units,

with rotating head and collimation facilities, subject to their fulfilling the prescribed conditions.

III. Assistance to the extent of Rs. 50,000 in each case is afforded to States/Union Territories/Institutions desirous of setting up of Early Cancer Detection Centres for procurement of equipment, subject to their satisfying the stipulated conditions. This scheme stipulates that 3 such Centres may be setup in each of the bigger States, 2 in the medium sized States and 1 in the smaller States.

IV. 3-4 Cancer Registries under the overall control of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi would be set up during the Sixth Five Year Plan, in the various regions of the country.

V. Central assistance would be afforded for research in the Traditional Systems of Medicine for the Treatment of cancer.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN : In the statement of the hon. Minister laid on the Table of the House it has been said that the Government of India have tentatively decided to afford financial assistance to the nine institutes mentioned in the Statement, to develop them as regional cancer research training centres depending upon their satisfying the prescribed conditions by the concerned states or Union Territories. I want to know whether the Minister would be pleased to state what are those conditions and how many of the states connected with these institutions mentioned in the statement have so far fulfilled those conditions. May I know whether the Kerala Government which is concerned with the Cancer wing of the Medical College Hospital, Trivandrum, has fulfilled those prescribed conditions?

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR : I have already stated the position as far as part (c) of the question is concerned. I have already said, yes, we have included this. But there are certain criteria to be fulfilled for giving this assistance. In the Fifth Five-year plan we have taken up certain institutes to make them regional centres. We propose to take up six more as regional centres if they fulfil the criteria. There are certain criteria about it.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN : What are those conditions?

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR : These conditions are detailed here. I can read out if the hon. Member wants.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN : The Government of Kerala has issued orders for the establishment of a Regional Cancer Research Institute with limited autonomy in the premises of Medical College Hospital, Trivandrum, pending clearance of the Government of India. The information given by the Kerala Government to the Members of Parliament representing the Constituencies of Kerala State is that clearance of the Central Government is pending for this purpose. I want to know whether the clearance has already been given to this effect by the Central Government. If it has not been given so far, when does the Government propose to give clearance to establish the Research Institute?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has already replied to that.

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR : I said 'Yes'.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I would request the hon. Minister to inform the House whether it is a fact that out of the total cancer attack in the Country, Assam has got the highest attack. I want to know whether the Hon. Minister would consider having a Regional Cancer Research Centre in Assam preferably in Cachar because Cachar is the most affected district in that region. Incidentally I may mention that the Hon. Minister has been elected from that constituency.

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR : This is only a suggestion. In regard to the other part of his question, my reply is: 'Yes' there is a lot of incidence of Cancer in that part of our country.

DR. KARAN SINGH : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as you are aware cancer is one of the dangerous and intractable diseases in the world and there is a lot of research going on in the world to have grip over this disease. Many systems of medicine in India apart from allopathy also claim cure for cancer disease, for example Ayurvedi, Unani, Homoeopathy, Natural cure, etc. Now, in the Rotary Cancer Hospital at the All India Medical Institute, a decision has been taken that there would be a unique multi-pronged attack on the cancer by combining all these 5 medicines to treat this disease so that instead of duplicating the research that is going on all over the world we might as a result of our indigenous background, be able to bring some new idea to bear upon cancer treatment. Would the hon. Minister let us know

how far this multipronged, multi dimensional attack on cancer has progressed in the last two years ?

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR : We are trying to develop all sorts of systems. If anybody comes forward and suggest any Indian system of Medicine, we would try to help him. We have a provision for giving central assistance for the research in Ayurvedic and homeopathic medicines.

DR. KARAN SINGH : Generally funds are available for research in other systems. That is not my question. My question is that specially for cancer, the Rotary club in the Institute has collected Rs. 80 lakhs and it has been put up. A decision was taken at that one hospital that various systems of medicines would be tried together at one place so that they can be studied, their impact, their inter-action, their Correlation could be studied. Has that progressed ?

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR : So far this part of the question the necessary information is not with me. I have to collect this information.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : According to experts and doctors, if cancer is detected at an earlier stage, it can be cured. In the light of this I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any proposal to establish testing centre for cancer for early detection. I also want to know whether the Government has any proposal to establish such centres in all the district headquarters of the country. My second question is that there is a Tibetan Medical Institute at the Dalai Lama's headquarters at Dharmshala.

Many peop'e have reportedly been cured particularly of breast cancer : many other types of cancer have also been cured by that Tibetan medicine. Will the Government look into it for further research in that type of medicine ?

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR : I have already stated that depending upon the availability of funds and the fulfilment of the prescribed conditions, we are going ahead with the Programme.

The hon. Member has asked whether we have any programme for early detection of this disease. We have a definite programme for this. It may not be possible to have such centres in every district, but we are trying to put up such centres initially in certain areas. But there is a scheme for that.

As regards the third part of the Question of the hon. Member, I will look into the same.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : A part of my question had already been asked. Everybody knows that half of the battle against cancer depends on early detection. You may invest money in lot of costly sophisticated equipment, expansion of hospitals etc., but in a country like ours where ignorance about these things is widely prevalent, if early detection is not given priority, I am afraid all this expenditure may be of no avail. According to the statement laid on the Table of the House, it appears that the question of setting up early cancer detection centres is more or less left to the option of the various states and union Territories. It says so:

"Assistance to the extent of Rs. 50,000 in each case is afforded to states/ Union Territories/Institutions desirous of setting up of early cancer detection centres."

Of course, I know, you cannot compel these people to do anything. But have you thought of any kind of incentive by which financial assistance would be offered to those institutions or states who would really go in for a widespread campaign and propaganda down to the villages about why early detection is necessary and also to increase the number of such centres, as far as possible. Here, it is, more or less, left to the option of anybody who wants it.

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR : As I have already said, those states or Institutions who want to take advantage of this scheme we are ready to give Rs. 50,000 as financial assistance for opening up such centres. But we are sorry to say that in spite of our writing to various states, they are not coming forward to take advantage of this scheme.

श्रीमति ऊषा वर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कैंसर की बीमारी हर जगह पर फैली हुई है और उसके इलाज के लिए छोटा आदमी बाहर नहीं जा सकता है । इस के लिए मैं वह जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या सरकार उत्तरप्रदेश में कैंसर की बीमारी के लिए कोई व्यवस्था करना चाहेगी । इस के बारे में सरकार का क्या विचार है ।

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR : Uttar Pradesh is a very big State and we have a provision for such States also and they can certainly take advantage of these schemes.

प्राचार्य भगवान देव : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह देखा गया है कि एलोपैथी पर अधिक रूपया सरकार की तरफ से खर्च किया जा रहा है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जामनगर में आयुर्वेद की जो यूनिवर्सिटी स्थापित है उस में कैंसर की चिकित्सा के संबंध में एलोपैथी की दृष्टि से कितनी राशि व्यय की जा रही है और कितना बजट में प्रावधान किया गया है ?

दूसरे क्या मंत्री जी इस सम्बन्ध में भी जानकारी देंगे कि योग की दृष्टि से कितनी राशि गोल मार्केट, नई दिल्ली में चल रहे योग केन्द्र पर खर्च की जा रही है ?

SHRI NIHAR RAJAN LASKAR : As I have already said, Central assistance is available for Ayurvedic research in cancer programme. But it is a fact that allopathic system is doing much more and they are getting more assistance in this field. Government is, of course, interested to give some funds if the Indian medicine system, come forward to take advantage of these schemes for research. If they have some programme, we are prepared to give them funds.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, as you know there are three types of administrations in the country, the State Government, the Union Territory with the legislature and the Union Territories without legislature which is directly administered by the Union Government. Now, I would like to know specifically from the Honourable Minister what is his option from the Union Government for the Union Territories directly administered by them to have these centres of the cancer institutes ?

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR : The States and the Union Territories are entitled for this assistance. When they i.e. Union Territories come up with proposals they are entitled for it and they are considered.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO : Sir, apart from the Research Institutes which are going to get grant from the Government, may I know from the Minister whether individuals, the Ayurvedic doctors, who have been carrying on the

research in the field of cancer and who claim to have cured some incurable cases will they get grants from the Government ?

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR : So far, there is no such case.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All Honourable Members who are putting supplementary questions may go through the questions and be prepared to ask supplementaries for the first ten questions at least. In that case, everybody will get a chance. Don't prepare only for one question.

श्री जगपाल सिंह : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि जिन नौ कैंसर अनुसंधान केन्द्रों को केन्द्र सरकार सहायता देती है क्या उनमें ऐसी कोई योजना बनाई गई है कि भारत में जो पुरुषों के मुकाबले में स्त्रियों की संख्या घट रही है उसका मुख्य कारण स्त्रियों में कैंसर का ज्यादा होना है, क्या इसके सर्वेक्षण कोई योजना भारत सरकार ने बनाई है ? यदि बनाई है तो वह क्या है ?

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR : Sir, this is also a fact that women suffer more from cancer. This we are looking into to see how we can give more attention to women and all that.

New Muzaffarpur-Darbhanga Line

*145. **SHRI BHOGEN德拉 JHA :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether survey was held for new Muzaffarpur-Darbhanga direct line via Benibad ; and

(b) if so, the result thereabout and the action taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, sir, via Katra, Bharwara and Singhwara.

(b) According to the survey report, the proposed 65.54 kms. long B.G. line was estimated to cost Rs. 12.45 crores and financially unremunerative. Therefore, the proposal was not pursued.