

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1160
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH JUNE, 2019**

CANCER CONTROL MECHANISM

1160. SHRIMATI RATHVA GITABEN VAJESINGBHAI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to bring a comprehensive cancer control mechanism on the scale of the existing measures to combat HIV and tuberculosis, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the Government has any plan to expand cancer prevention diagnosis, treatment and palliation across the country, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b): The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments to prevent and control cancer and to provide affordable and accessible care. Some of the steps taken by Central Government are as follows:

(i) The objectives of National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) being implemented under National Health Mission (NHM) for interventions upto the district level include awareness generation for Cancer prevention, screening, early detection and referral to an appropriate level institution for treatment. For Cancer, the focus is on three Cancers namely breast, cervical and oral. Focus of the programme is on Strengthening infrastructure, human resource development, health promotion, early diagnosis, management and referral. As reported by State Governments, 585 NCD Clinics at District level and 3084 NCD Clinics at Community Health Centre level have been set up under the programme. For cancer chemotherapy, 168 Day Care Centres have also been set up.

(ii) A population level initiative for prevention, control and screening for common Non-Communicable Diseases (diabetes, hypertension and cancer viz. oral, breast and cervical cancer) has been rolled out in over 215 districts of the country under NHM, as a part of comprehensive primary healthcare

(iii) To enhance the facilities for tertiary care of cancer, the Central Government is implementing Tertiary Care Cancer Centre Scheme to support setting up of State Cancer Institutes (SCI) and Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCC) in different parts of the country.

(iv) Oncology in its various aspects has focus in case of new AIIMS and many upgraded institutions under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY).

(v) Setting up of National Cancer Institute (NCI) at Jhajjar (Haryana) and Second campus of Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata has been approved.

(vi) The Government is providing financial assistance to patients living below poverty line for life threatening diseases under the schemes such as Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN), Health Minister's Cancer Patient Fund (HMCPF) and Health Minister's Discretionary Grant (HMDG).

(vii) Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) Deendayal outlets have been opened at 158 Institutions/Hospitals with an objective to make available Cancer and Cardiovascular Diseases drugs and implants at discounted prices to the patients. Jan Aushadhi stores are set up by Department of Pharmaceuticals to provide generic drugs at affordable prices.

(viii) Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (PMJAY) provides for benefit coverage of Rs. 5,00,000/- to over more than 10 crore beneficiary families, giving cashless access to services for the beneficiary at the point of service in empanelled hospitals (both public and private) across India. More than 1350 medical packages have been finalized by an expert committee. The treatment of cancer is also included under PMJAY.

The Government is also implementing National Programme for Palliative Care (NPPC) under NHM. The objectives of the programme include to improve the capacity to provide palliative care service delivery within Government health programmes, to promote behavior change in the community through increasing public awareness and improved skills and knowledge regarding pain relief and palliative care leading to community owned initiatives supporting health care system. Recurring and non-recurring grant is provided to States/UTs under NHM for supporting human resource and infrastructure inter-alia.

The Programme is a part of the 'Mission' Flexipool' of NHM. A framework of operational and financial guidelines for the states has been developed, on the basis of which the states/UTs prepare their proposals related to palliative care and incorporate them in their respective Programme Implementation Plan (PIPs) to seek financial support under NHM. The support is provided as per PIPs submitted by the States.

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