

AS INTRODUCED IN THE RAJYA SABHA
ON THE 5TH DECEMBER, 2025

Bill No. LXIII of 2025

THE BREAST CANCER (AWARENESS, EARLY
DETECTION AND DIAGNOSIS) BILL, 2025

A
BILL

*to create mass awareness among the people of all walks of life about
breast cancer and the need to detect, diagnose and prevent breast
cancer among females, to provide free screening including
mammography for all women across the country, and
provide advanced state-of-the-art treatment, free
of cost for those diagnosed with breast cancer
and for all matters connected therewith
or incidental thereto.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-sixth Year of the Republic of
India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Breast Cancer (Awareness, Early Detection
and Diagnosis) Act, 2025.

Short title and
commencement.

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- (2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by
notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

Definitions.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) "appropriate Government" means in the case of a State, the Government of that State and in all other cases, the Central Government;

(b) "breast cancer" means a disease in which cells in the breast begin to grow out of control to form a lump;

(c) "free medical treatment" includes supply of medicines, access to laboratory and laboratory tests, medical therapy and other medical procedures, as may be required, free of cost to breast cancer patients;

(d) "prescribed" means as prescribed by rules made under this Act; and

(e) "screening" means procedures for detection and diagnosis of breast cancer including mammography or x-ray of the breast or other tests as may be required.

Awareness programmes.

3. (1) The Central Government shall take such steps, as it may consider necessary, for the purpose of creating awareness amongst the general public about the symptoms, prevention, early detection, and treatment of breast cancer through the means of mass media including print, electronic, and social media and shall organise workshops, seminars, health camps, and such other awareness programmes throughout the country, as it may deem fit, in such manner as may be prescribed.

(2) The Central Government shall issue necessary directions to the State Governments, from time to time, for effectively implementing the steps under sub-section (1).

Provision for free medical screening.

4. The appropriate Government shall make arrangements, in such manner as may be prescribed, for providing free medical screening for all women in both urban and rural areas under their territorial jurisdiction, with the aid of local authorities to diagnose cases of breast cancer.

Provision for free medical treatment.

5. The appropriate Government shall provide free medical treatment to every woman diagnosed with breast cancer in Government hospitals, or such other public health institutions, as may be identified and notified in such manner and subject to such conditions, as may be prescribed.

Constitution of National Executive Committee.

6. (1) The Central Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute a National Executive Committee for the purposes of coordination, oversight, and implementation of the provisions of this Act and for performing such other functions, as may be prescribed.

(2) The National Executive Committee shall be headed by the Minister of Health and Family Welfare in the Government of India, who shall be the *ex-officio* Chairperson thereof.

(3) The Committee shall consist of the following Members, to be nominated by the Central Government, in such number and manner as may be prescribed,—

(a) representatives from amongst eminent oncologists, surgical oncologists, medical professionals, and researchers in the field of cancer diagnosis and treatment; and

(b) representatives of reputed non-governmental organisations actively engaged in breast cancer awareness and patient support in the field.

(4) The Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare shall be the *ex-officio* Member-Secretary of the National Executive Committee.

5 (5) The National Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every six months at such time and place as may be decided by the Chairperson and shall submit an annual report to the Central Government on its activities during the previous calendar year along with the status of implementation of the provisions of this Act.

(6) The Central Government shall cause the report referred to in sub-section (5) to be laid, as soon as may be after it is received, before each House of Parliament.

10 (7) **The Central Government may appoint, such number of officers and other employees to the National Executive Committee, as it may consider necessary for the efficient discharge of its functions under this Act.**

15 (8) **The term of office of, the salaries and allowances payable to, and other terms and conditions of service of, the Members of the National Executive Committee other than the Member-Secretary and the officers and other employees appointed under sub-section (7), shall be such as may be prescribed by the Central Government.**

20 7. **The Central Government shall, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law on this behalf, provide adequate funds, from time to time, to the National Executive Committee for carrying out the provisions of this Act.**

Central Government to provide funds.

25 8. (1) **The appropriate Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute a State Executive Committee in all States and Union territories, for the purposes of coordination, oversight, and implementation of the provisions of this Act in the State or Union territory concerned and for performing such other functions, as may be prescribed.**

Constitution of State Executive Committees.

30 (2) The State Executive Committee shall be headed by the Minister in-charge of the Ministry/Department of Health and Family Welfare in the appropriate Government, who shall be the *ex-officio* Chairperson thereof.

(3) The State Executive Committee shall consist of the following members, to be nominated by the appropriate Government, in such number and manner as may be prescribed—

35 (a) **representatives from amongst eminent oncologists, surgical oncologists, radiologists, medical professionals, and researchers in the field of cancer diagnosis and treatment in the State or Union territory, as the case may be; and**

40 (b) **representatives of reputed non-governmental organisations actively engaged in awareness, prevention, or treatment of breast cancer in the State or Union territory, as the case may be.**

(4) The Secretary in the Department of Health and Family Welfare in the appropriate Government, shall be the *ex-officio* Member-Secretary of the State Executive Committee.

45 (5) The State Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every six months at such time and place as may be decided by the Chairperson and shall submit an annual report on its activities during the previous calendar year along with the status of implementation of the provisions of this Act to the appropriate Government and to the National Executive Committee.

50 (6) The appropriate Government, shall cause the report referred to in sub-section (5), to be laid, as soon as may be after it is received, before each House of Parliament or as the case may be before each House of the State or Union territory Legislature, where it consists of two Houses and before the Legislature of the State or the Union territory, where it consists of only one House.

(7) The appropriate Government may appoint, such number of officers and other employees to the State Executive Committee, as it may consider necessary for the efficient discharge of its functions under this Act.

(8) The term of office of, the salaries and allowances payable to, and other terms and conditions of service of, the Members of the State Executive Committee other than the Member-Secretary and the officers and other employees appointed under sub-section (7), shall be such as may be prescribed by the appropriate Government.

Sharing of financial responsibilities.

9. (1) The Central Government and the State Governments shall, have concurrent responsibility for providing funds for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

(2) The Central Government shall prepare the estimates of capital and recurring expenditure for the implementation of the provisions of the Act.

(3) The Central Government shall provide to the State Governments, as grants-in-aid of revenues, such percentage of expenditure referred to in sub-section (2) as it may determine, from time to time, in consultation with the State Governments.

(4) The State Governments shall, after taking into consideration, the sums provided by the Central Government and its other resources, be responsible to provide funds for implementation of the provisions of this Act.

Act to have overriding effect.

10. The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in derogation of the provisions of any other law in this regard for the time being in force or any other instrument having effect by virtue of any such law and in case of any inconsistency, the provisions of this Act shall have overriding effect on the provision of any such to the extent of such inconsistency.

Power to make rules.

11. (1) The appropriate Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(2) Every rule made under this Act shall be laid as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament while it is session for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid both Houses agree in making any modifications in the rule of both the Houses agree that the rules should not be made, the rules shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect as the case may be; so, however that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under the rule.

(3) Every rule made by a State or Union territory Government with Legislature under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of the Legislature of that State or Union territory, as the case may be, where it consists of two Houses, or before the Legislature of the State or Union territory, where it consists of only one House.

Power to remove difficulties.

12. (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Central Government may, by order, published in the Official Gazette, make such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as may appear to it to be necessary for removing the difficulty:

Provided that no such orders shall be made after the expiry of the period of two years from the date of commencement of this Act.

(2) Every order made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer in women around the world, accounting for one quarter of all female cancers. Breast cancer deaths in the South-East Asia region are expected to increase to 64 per cent. by 2040. Breast cancer among women in India has seen a rapid rise in the last decade and according to the Indian Council of Medical Research, 2.12 lakh new cases of breast cancer were reported in the year 2023 alone. With the incidence rising in the early thirties and twenties and peaking at ages fifty to sixty-five years, Breast cancer is the most common cancer in India, accounting for 29 per cent. of all female cancers, with an estimated 252,108 cases by October 2025. It is estimated that 28 women in 100 are likely to develop breast cancer during her lifetime.

Due to the lack of awareness among masses about breast cancer and Breast Self-Examination methods, it is usually diagnosed at an advanced stage, where the treatment becomes ineffective and very expensive. Recent trends also show that younger women in the country are also exposed to the risk of breast cancer.

The Bill proposes that the Centre and State Governments should work together to provide free diagnosis and medical treatment to women affected by breast cancer and help combat this grave disease by creating mass awareness amongst the people about breast cancer and the need to detect it at an early stage.

Hence, this Bill.

KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 3 provides that the Central Government shall take all necessary steps for creating awareness about breast cancer amongst the general public through mass media and arrangement of workshops, seminars etc. Clauses 4 and 5 provide for free medical screening for and treatment of breast cancer respectively for all women. Clauses 6 and 8 provide for the constitution of National and State Executive Committees, including their composition, appointment of officers and employees thereto, payment of salaries and allowances to the Members other than the Member-Secretary and their other terms and conditions of service. Clause 7 provides that the Central Government shall, after due appropriation made by Parliament, provide funds to the National Executive Committee for carrying out the provisions of the Bill. Clause 9 provides that the Central and State Governments shall have concurrent responsibility in providing funds for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Bill and that the Central Government shall provide as grants-in-aid of revenues to the State Governments, such percentage of expenditure as it may determine, from time to time, in consultation with the State Governments.

The Bill, therefore, if enacted, will involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. It is estimated that a sum of rupees two thousand crore would be involved as recurring expenditure per annum. A non-recurring expenditure of rupees five hundred crores is also likely to be involved.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 11 of the Bill empowers the appropriate Government to make rules for carrying out the purposes of the Bill. Clause 12 of the Bill empowers the Central Government to make such provisions through an order for removing any difficulty that might arise in giving effect to the provisions of the Bill.

As the rules or orders will relate to matters of procedural and administrative detail only, the delegation of legislative power is of a normal character.

RAJYA SABHA

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BILL

to create mass awareness among the people of all walks of life about breast cancer and the need to detect, diagnose and prevent breast cancer among females, to provide free screening including mammography for all women across the country, and provide advanced state-of-the-art treatment, free of cost for those diagnosed with breast cancer and for all matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu, M.P.)