

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1386  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2017**

**CANCER PATIENTS IN THE COUNTRY**

**1386. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:**

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

- (a) the estimated number of cancer patients in the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that only 20 per cent cases of cancer are detected in first and second stage in the country;
- (c) whether some experts have suggested to declare cancer as a notified disease like tuberculosis;
- (d) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to check the rising number of cancer patients?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) & (b): As informed by Indian Council of Medical Research, the estimated incidence of cancer patients in the country for the year 2016 is 1451417. As reported by ICMR as per "Consolidated Report on Hospital Based Cancer Registry: 2012-14", it is estimated that approximately 17% patients report when the disease has spread throughout the body which is the end stage of disease

(c) & (d): There have been different opinions among experts regarding declaring cancer as a notifiable disease. The Government of India does not propose to declare Cancer as a notifiable disease. The National Cancer Registry Programme is already implemented by National Centre for Disease Informatics and Research (NCDIR), Bengaluru, under the aegis of Indian Council of Medical Research. The data made available is sufficient for the programme and policy related to Cancer prevention and control in the country.

(e): Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Government for improving healthcare including prevention, diagnosis and treatment of Cancer. The objectives of National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke

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(NPCDCS) being implemented under National Health Mission (NHM) for interventions upto district level include awareness generation for Cancer prevention, screening, early detection and referral to an appropriate level institution for treatment. The focus is on three types of cancer namely breast, cervical and oral cancer. Operational guidelines for implementing population wide screening of common cancer viz. breast, cervical and oral cancer have been issued to the State Governments. The guidelines include screening for the risk factors of cancer among common Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs). Such screening will also spread awareness on the risk factors of common NCDs including cancer.

The Government of India is implementing “Tertiary Care Cancer Centre” Scheme to assist to establish/set up State Cancer Institutes (SCI) and Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCC) in different parts of the country. Oncology in its various aspects has focus in case of new AIIMS and many upgraded institutions under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY). Setting up of National Cancer Institute at Jhajjar (Haryana) and 2nd campus of Chittranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata has also been approved. All these will enhance the capacity for prevention and treatment of cancer in the country.