

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3135
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28th March, 2023**

AWARENESS ABOUT CERVICAL CANCER IN RURAL AREAS

**3135. DR. SUMER SINGH SOLANKI:
MS. KAVITA PATIDAR:**

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government for dissemination of information and awareness about cervical cancer in the rural areas;
- (b) the data as regards to this cancer especially in women and the number of districts of Madhya Pradesh, where it is prevalent; and
- (c) whether Government is contemplating vaccination in a planned manner in order to treat the same?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (c): Awareness Generation for prevention & control of Non Communicable Diseases including cervical cancer has been focused in following ways: -

1. Preventive aspect of Cancer is strengthened under Comprehensive Primary Health Care through Ayushman Bharat Health Wellness Centre Scheme, by promotion of wellness activities and targeted communication at the community level.
2. Other initiatives for increasing public awareness by using print, electronic and social media about Cancer and for promotion of healthy lifestyle includes observation of National Cancer Awareness Day, World Cancer Day
3. Healthy Eating is promoted through Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
4. Fit India movement is implemented by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
5. Various Yoga related activities are carried out by Ministry of AYUSH.

In addition, NPCDCS gives financial support under NHM for awareness generation (IEC) activities for NCDs including cervical cancer to be undertaken by the States/UTs as per their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs).

A population-based initiative for prevention, control and screening for common Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) i.e., diabetes, hypertension and common cancers has been rolled out in the country

under NHM and also as a part of Comprehensive Primary Health Care. Under the initiative, persons more than 30 years of age are targeted for their screening for common NCDs. Screening of these common NCDs is an integral part of service delivery under Ayushman Bharat – Health and Wellness Centres.

As per Indian Council of Medical Research’ National Cancer Registry Programme, the estimated number of incidences of cervical cancer cases reported in the country as well as in Madhya Pradesh during 2018-2020 is given below:

Year	2018	2019	2020
Estimated Incidence of Cervical Cancer Cases in India	71,415	73,289	75,209
Estimated Incidence of Cervical Cancer Cases in Madhya Pradesh	3828	3934	4042

The Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs under the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS). The programme includes the following,

- i. Strengthening infrastructure
- ii. Human resource development
- iii. Health promotion
- iv. Screening of 30 years and above population under Ayushman Bharat Health Wellness Centre
- v. Early diagnosis and management
- vi. Referral to an appropriate level of healthcare facility

Under NPCDCS, 708 District NCD Clinics, 194 District Cardiac Care Units, 301 District Day Care Centres and 5671 Community Health Center NCD Clinics has been set up.

Cervical Cancer patients are getting treatment at various health facilities in the health care delivery system including District Hospitals, Medical Colleges, Central Institutes like AIIMS, Central Government hospitals, and private sector hospitals. The treatment in Government Hospitals is either free or highly subsidized for the poor and needy.

There is also focus on oncology in case of new AIIMS and many upgraded institutions under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY). Treatment of cancer including cervical cancer is also available under Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY).

National Technical Advisory Group for Immunization (NTAGI) is the apex technical advisory body to advice Ministry of Health and Family welfare on immunization. In June 2022, based on fresh evidence on disease burden, evidence on effectiveness of single dose of HPV vaccine, clinical trial data and experience of the Government of Sikkim on the introduction of HPV vaccine NTAGI recommended the introduction of HPV vaccine in the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) with a one-time catch-up for 9-14-year-old adolescent girls followed with routine introduction at 9 years.
