

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 250
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5th DECEMBER, 2023**

ACTION PLAN TO REDUCE INCIDENTS OF SCA

250. SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that as per the Indian Heart Association, heart disease strikes Indians at an earlier age than other demographics, if so, whether Government has constituted any research body to study the same;
- (b) whether Government has any data regarding the incidence of Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) among youngsters aged between 20-35;
- (c) whether Government has any action plan to reduce the incidence of SCAs among youngsters; and
- (d) whether Government has any dedicated plans to help the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families who lost youngsters due to SCA, if so, the details thereon?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(PROF. S P SINGH BAGHEL)

(a) to (d) As informed by ICMR, the INTERHEART study (a large international case control study of acute heart attacks across 52 countries conducted in 2003) found that the median age of myocardial infarction in Indians was 52 years compared to 62 years in the European origin. The CREATE Registry data shows that 52% of deaths due to cardiovascular diseases occur before 70 years in India compared to 23% in the Western Population.

Sudden deaths have been reported in some youth during last three years. However, at present sufficient evidence is not available to confirm the cause of such deaths. To

ascertain the facts regarding the apprehension of rising cases of cardiac arrest, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is conducting following three different studies.

1. "Factors associated with sudden deaths among adults aged 18-45 years, India: multicentric matched case control study" ongoing at 40 hospitals/research centers.
2. "Effect of COVID-19 vaccine on thrombotic events among 18-45 years old population in India, 2022: multicentric hospital based matched case control study" ongoing at 30 COVID-19 clinical registry hospitals.
3. "Establishing the cause in sudden unexplained death in the young", through virtual and physical Autopsy.

Data of the incidence of Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) among youngsters aged between 20 -35 is not maintained centrally.

The Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, however, provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs under the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Non Communicable Diseases (NP-NCD), as part of National Health Mission (NHM), based on the proposals received from the States/UTs and subject to the resource envelope. The programme focusses on strengthening infrastructure, human resource development, health promotion & awareness generation for prevention, early diagnosis, management and referral to an appropriate level of healthcare facility for treatment of the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs). Under NP-NCD, 743 District NCD Clinics, 355 District Day Care Centres, 219 Cardiac Care Units, and 6237 Community Health Center NCD Clinics has been set up.

A population-based initiative for prevention, control and screening for common NCDs 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 the common NCDs i.e. Diabetes, Hypertension and three common cancers i.e oral, breast and cervical. Screening of these common NCDs is an integral part of service delivery under Ayushman Arogya Mandir (erstwhile Ayushman Bharat Health & Wellness Centre).

Preventive aspect of Cardiovascular Diseases is strengthened under Comprehensive Primary Health Care through Ayushman Arogya Mandir scheme, by promotion of wellness activities and targeted communication at the community level. Other initiatives for increasing public awareness about NCDs promotion of healthy lifestyle includes observation of Health Days pertains to NCDs & use of print, electronic and social media for continued community awareness. Furthermore, healthy eating is also promoted through FSSAI. Fit India movement is implemented by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, and various Yoga related activities are carried out by Ministry of AYUSH. In addition, NP-

NCD gives financial support under NHM for awareness generation (IEC) activities for NCDs to be undertaken by the States/UTs as per their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs).

Diagnosis and treatment of NCDs is available at various levels in the health care delivery system including District Hospitals, Medical Colleges, Central Institute 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.

Treatment of major NCDs including heart diseases are also available under Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) coverage of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year for secondary or tertiary care hospitalization is provided to over 60 crore poor and needy beneficiaries. Besides, quality generic medicines are made available at affordable prices to all, under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) in collaboration with the State Governments. Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) Pharmacy stores have been set up in some hospitals/institutions, with an objective to make drugs available at a substantial discount vis-à-vis the Maximum Retail Price.
