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

RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 181 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2025

CANCER CARE ACCESSIBILITY IN RURAL AREAS

*181. SHRI SANJEEV ARORA:

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

- (a) the number of cancer care centres, chemotherapy facilities and palliative care services available in rural areas of the country, State-wise;
- (b) the percentage of rural cancer patients who have access to advanced treatments such as targeted therapies, immunotherapy, etc., compared to urban patients; and

(c) the plan of the Ministry to improve cancer care access in underserved rural areas?

ANSWER MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.181 FOR 18.03.2025

(a) Under National Programme for Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NP-NCD), 770 District NCD Clinics, 233 Cardiac Care Units, 372 District Day Care Centres, and 6,410 NCD clinics at Community Health Centres have been set up.

Moreover, 19 State Cancer Institutes (SCIs) and 20 Tertiary Cancer Care Centers (TCCCs) have been set up in different parts of the country to provide advanced cancer care. Also, cancer treatment facilities have been approved in all 22 new AIIMS with diagnostic, medical and surgical facilities. Moreover National Cancer Institute (NCI) at Jhajjar, Haryana with 1,460 patient care beds and the second campus of Chittranjan National Cancer Institute in Kolkata with 460 beds provides advanced diagnostic and treatment facilities.

Further there are 372 District Day Care Centres providing Chemotherapy across the country. Under the National Programme for Palliative Care (NPPC) services like Out Patient Department (OPD), In Patient Department (IPD), referral, home based palliative care are being provided at District level. The State wise details are at **Annexure**.

Under the Department of Atomic Energy, Tata Memorial Centre has two units/ hospitals in rural / semi-urban locations – the Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital (HBCH) in Sangrur in Punjab and the Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital in Muzzafarpur in Bihar.

(b) & (c) A population-based initiative for screening, management and prevention of Non Communicable Diseases, including cancer has been rolled out in the country as a part of a Comprehensive Primary Health Care under National Health Mission. Prevention and screening services are delivered through public health facilities by Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) & Auxiliary Nurse and Midwife (ANM) workers.

Teleconsultation facility is available for seeking expert opinion from District Hospitals and Tertiary care Hospitals for those patients who are suspected for any cancer related ailments after screening. Continuum of care is ensured through referral to Tertiary care facilities and Medical hospitals empaneled under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY). In PM-JAY, cancer related treatment including breast, oral and cervical cancer is provided under more than 200 packages having more than 500 procedures of Medical Oncology, Surgical Oncology, Radiation Oncology and Palliative Medicine in the national Health Benefit Package (HBP) master. Among these, 37 packages are specifically related to targeted therapies for cancer care, including chemotherapy (CT) for CA Breast, CT for Metastatic Melanoma, CT for Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia, CT for Burkitt's Lymphoma, CT for CA Lung, and others.

Under PMJAY more than 68 lakh cancer treatments worth over Rs 13,000 crore have been undertaken under the scheme. As per centrally available data, 75.81% of these treatments were availed by beneficiaries from rural areas.

With regard to targeted therapies for cancer care, more than 4.5 lakh treatments worth over ₹985 crore have been undertaken for targeted therapies of cancer care. Of these, 76.32% were availed by rural beneficiaries under PM-JAY.

One-time financial assistance upto ₹15 lakh is provided under the Health Minister's Cancer Patient Fund (HMCPF) for treatment of poor patients living below poverty lines and suffering from cancer. Besides, quality generic medicines including cancer drugs are made available at 50% to 80% cheaper rates than branded medicines through Janaushadhi Stores and through the 217 AMRIT Pharmacies, 289 Oncology drugs are given at a significant discount upto 50% of market rate.

Budget announcement of opening of 200 Day Care Cancer Centers (DCCCs) at District Hospitals in 2025-26 and saturation of remaining District Hospitals with DCCCs in the next three years has been made this year.

| | | | | Annexure |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------|------------------------------|--|
| S. No. | Name of State | TCCC & SCI | No. of Day Care Centre | No. of District Hospitals providing Palliative Care services |
| 1 | Andaman & Nicobar | - | - | - |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 1 | 9 | 9 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | - | - | 15 |
| 4 | Assam | 1 | 7 | 5 |
| 5 | Bihar | 1 | - | 6 |
| 6 | Chandigarh | - | - | 1 |
| 7 | Chhattisgarh | 1 | 23 | 16 |
| 8 | Daman & Diu & DNH | - | 3 | 3 |
| 9 | Delhi | 1 | 5 | 1 |
| 10 | Goa | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 11 | Gujarat | 1 | 35 | 33 |
| 12 | Haryana | 1 | 5 | 22 |
| 13 | Himachal Pradesh | 2 | 11 | 12 |
| 14 | Jammu & Kashmir | 2 | 20 | 11 |
| 15 | Jharkhand | 1 | - | 18 |
| 16 | Karnataka | 2 | _ | 31 |
| 17 | Kerala | 2 | 25 | 14 |
| 18 | Ladakh | | 2 | 2 |
| 19 | Lakshadweep | _ | - | 1 |
| 20 | Madhya Pradesh | 2 | 52 | 51 |
| 21 | Maharashtra | 3 | 12 | 34 |
| 22 | Manipur | - | 9 | 16 |
| 23 | Meghalaya | _ | 2 | 11 |
| 24 | Mizoram | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| 25 | Nagaland | 1 | - | 4 |
| 26 | Odisha | 1 | 30 | 30 |
| 27 | Puducherry | - | - | |
| 28 | Punjab | 2 | 1 | 8 |
| 29 | Rajasthan | 3 | 33 | 33 |
| 30 | Sikkim | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| 31 | Tamil Nadu | 1 | 38 | 38 |
| 32 | Telangana | 1 | 5 | 32 |
| 33 | Tripura | 1 | - | 8 |
| 34 | Uttar Pradesh | 1 | 4 | 13 |
| 35 | Uttarakhand | 1 | 10 | 13 |
| 36 | West Bengal | 3 | 26 | 27 |
| | India | 39 | 372 | 534 |