

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1895
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH AUGUST, 2026**

TREATMENT OF CANCER PATIENTS

1895. SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P:

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

- (a) whether Government has assessed the average waiting time for diagnosis and treatment of cancer patients in Government hospitals across the country;
- (b) the State/UT-wise number of Regional Cancer Centres and Government cancer treatment facilities;
- (c) whether there is a shortage of oncologists, radiotherapy equipment and chemotherapy facilities, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken to strengthen affordable and timely cancer care, particularly in rural and underserved areas?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (d) Public Health and Hospitals are state subject. Under the National Health Mission (NHM), the Department of Health and Family Welfare is implementing population-based screening for common non-communicable diseases, including oral, breast and cervical cancers, for individuals aged 30 years and above through Ayushman Arogya Mandirs by trained frontline health workers (ASHAs and ANMs). This facilitates early detection and timely referral of suspected cases, thereby reducing delays in diagnosis and initiation of treatment.

Regional Cancer Centres (RCCs) were earlier supported under the erstwhile National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP). However, the scheme is no longer operational. At present, The Department of Health and Family Welfare is implementing 'Strengthening of Tertiary Care Cancer Facilities' Scheme under the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases. Under the Scheme, support is provided to States and Union Territories for setting up of State Cancer Institutes (SCIs) and Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCCs) in Government Medical College/Hospital or erstwhile Regional Cancer Centre. Till date 39 institutions (19 SCI and 20 TCCC). The details of these institutes are given at Annexure.

In addition, 524 Day Care Cancer Centres (DCCCs) are functional across the country to ensure cancer care accessibility at district hospital level. Oncologists are appointed by the respective State Governments based on their requirements. Financial support is provided under the National Health Mission (NHM) for strengthening healthcare infrastructure and human resources.

Treatment of major NCDs including cancer is available under Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PMJAY). Under AB-PMJAY, eligible beneficiary families are provided health coverage of ₹5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization. The scheme covers cashless treatment for 1,961 procedures across 27 medical specialties, including Medical Oncology, Surgical Oncology and Radiation Oncology, through empanelled public and private hospitals. States/UTs also have the flexibility to customize the Health Benefit Packages to address local healthcare needs. Quality generic medicines for NCDs are made available at affordable prices to all, under 'Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP). Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) provides affordable medicines for treatment of various diseases including NCDs including cancer.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provides one-time financial assistance of up to Rs. 15 lakh under the Health Minister's Cancer Patient Fund (HMCPF), a component of the Umbrella Scheme of Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN), for the treatment of poor patients suffering from cancer at Regional Cancer Centres (RCCs), Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCCs), State Cancer Institutes (SCIs), and other Government hospitals/institutes with cancer treatment facilities.

Annexure

S No.	State	Name of the Institute	Type of Institute (TCCC/SCI)
1	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool Medical College, Kurnool	SCI
2	Assam	Guwahati Medical College & Hospital, Guwahati	SCI
3	Bihar	Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna	SCI
4	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh Institute of Medical Sciences, Bilaspur	SCI
5	Delhi	Lok Nayak Hospital	TCCC
6	Goa	Goa Medical College, Panaji	TCCC
7	Gujarat	Gujarat Cancer Research Institute, Ahmedabad	SCI
8	Haryana	Civil Hospital, Ambala Cantt	TCCC
9	Himachal Pradesh	Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla	TCCC
10		Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Medical College, Mandi	TCCC
11	Jammu & Kashmir	Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, Srinagar	SCI
12		Government Medical College, Jammu	SCI
13	Jharkhand	Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences, Ranchi	SCI
14	Karnataka	Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology (RCC), Bengaluru	SCI
15		Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences, Mandya	TCCC
16	Kerala	Government Medical College, Kozhikode	TCCC
17		Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram	SCI
18	Madhya Pradesh	Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Medical College, Jabalpur	SCI
19		G.R. Medical College, Gwalior	TCCC
20	Maharashtra	Rashtrasant Tukdoji Regional Cancer Hospital & Research Centre, Nagpur	TCCC
21		Government Medical College, Aurangabad	SCI
22		Vivekanand Foundation & Research Centre, Latur	TCCC
23	Mizoram	Civil Hospital, Aizawl	TCCC
24	Nagaland	District Hospital, Kohima	TCCC
25	Odisha	Acharya Harihar Regional Cancer Centre, Cuttack	SCI
26	Punjab	Government Medical College, Amritsar	SCI
27		Civil Hospital, Fazilka	TCCC
28	Rajasthan	S P Medical College, Bikaner	TCCC
29		SMS Medical College, Jaipur	SCI
30		Jhalawar Medical College & Hospital, Jhalawar	TCCC
31	Sikkim	Multispecialty Hospital at Sohygang (Sichey), near Gangtok, Sikkim	TCCC
32	Tamil Nadu	Cancer Institute (RCC), Adyar, Chennai	SCI
33	Telangana	MNJ Institute of Oncology & RCC, Hyderabad	SCI
34	Tripura	Cancer Hospital (RCC), Agartala	SCI
35	Uttarakhand	Government Medical College, Haldwani	SCI
36	Uttar Pradesh	Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow	TCCC
37	West Bengal	Government Medical College, Burdwan	TCCC
38		Murshidabad Medical College & Hospital, Berhampore, Murshidabad	TCCC
39		Sagore Dutta Memorial Medical College and Hospital, Kolkata	TCCC