

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
LOK SABHA

Unstarred Question No. 1823
To be Answered on 06.03.2018

Free Cochlear Implants

SHRI RAM CHARITRA NISHAD:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that the Government's scheme to provide free cochlear implants to poor children is said to have broken the cartel that restricts implantation to just a few surgeons and hospitals;
- (b) whether there are 172 centres under the scheme where implantation can be done but a close look at the data shows that only 30 of them have done more than 10 surgeries while 101 have not done any and another 20 have done five or less;
- (c) whether it is true that despite being a Government scheme, nine private centres which have done more than 20 surgeries each accounted for almost two thirds of the 911 surgeries done till August this year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

**Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment
(SHRI KRISHAN PAL GURJAR)**

(a): The Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fittings of Aids/Appliances (ADIP) being implemented by the Ministry provides for Cochlear Implant surgery with a ceiling of Rs. 6.00 lakh per child. Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech & Hearing Disabilities (Divyangjan) (AYJNISHD), Mumbai is the nodal agency for Cochlear Implant surgery and rehabilitation. Procurement of Cochlear Implants is made by Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), Kanpur, a Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry in a transparent manner by inviting Tender on a national basis. This has resulted in reducing the cost of cochlear implant from Rs.4.40 lakh to Rs.3.67 lakh. The cochlear implants are distributed all over India to the 172 empanelled hospitals where surgeons conduct the cochlear implant surgery. Thus cochlear implant is not restricted to only a few hospitals.

(b): The Ministry has approved empanelment of 172 Hospitals, out of which 14 Hospitals did not enter into a MoU with AYJNISHD, Mumbai. Of the remaining 158 hospitals, 83 hospitals have conducted cochlear implant surgeries. 50 hospitals (19 Government and 31 Private) have done less than 10 cochlear implant surgeries. 33 Hospitals (10 Government and 23 Private Hospitals) have done more than 10 cochlear implant surgeries. 07 Hospitals (02 Government and 05 Private) have done more than 30 cochlear implant surgeries.

Total number of surgeries done so far is 1089 (323 surgeries done in Government Hospitals and 766 done in Private Hospitals).

(c): As the pace of cochlear implant surgery was slow in Government Hospitals, it was decided to empanel Private Hospitals also. More than 20 surgeries have been conducted in 18 Hospitals out of which 04 are Government Hospitals and 14 are Private Hospitals.

(d): Details of surgeries done in Government and Private Hospitals are given in the **Annexure**. In view of the long waiting list of children to be provided with Cochlear Implants, it has been the endeavour of the Government to empanel both Government and Private Hospitals under the Scheme.

Reply to part (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.1823 for Answer on 06.03.2018

Hospital	Total No. of Hospitals	No. of Hospital conducting CI	No. of Hospital conducted less than 10 surgeries	No. of Hospital conducted more than 10 surgeries	No. of Hospital conducted less than 20 surgeries	No. of Hospital conducted more than 30 surgeries	Total Surgeries Done Under ADIP & CSR
Govt. Hospitals	43	29	19	6	2	2	323
Private Hospitals	115	54	31	9	19	5	766
Total	158	83	50	15	11	7	1089