

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 484
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH JULY, 2018**

BREAST CANCER AMONG YOUNG WOMEN

484. SHRI B. SENGUTTUVAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the recent reports in the media that the incidence of breast cancer has risen sharply amongst young women in India;
- (b) if so, the State-wise and UT-wise particulars relating to women below the age of 35 years during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has confirmed that the incidence of breast cancer has gone up from 5 to 15 percent in young women in the age group of 20-40 years in India and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the changes in lifestyle, hormonal imbalance, body mass index and obesity are the reasons for the high incidence of breast cancer, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective steps which are contemplated by the Government to reduce the incidence of breast cancer among young women?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (c): According to the report “Call for Action: Expanding cancer care for women in India” published by FICCI flo & EY in 2017, in 2015 the reported incidence of cancer cases of the breast (19%), cervix uteri (14%) and ovary (7%) contributed to 40% of all cancer incidences among women, with states such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Delhi having the highest crude incidence for these cancers.

However, the ICMR-National Cancer Registry Program (NCRP) data as per National Centre for Disease Informatics and Research (NCDIR) report on “Time Trends in Cancer Incidence Rates 1982-2010” does not show statistically significant increase in Age Adjusted Incidence Rate (AAR) for breast cancer amongst the young women (below 35) in Bangalore, Bhopal, Chennai and Delhi, except for Mumbai Population Based Cancer Registry (PBCR), where age group 0-24 showed an increase in AARs over time.

As per the NCDIR-NCRP Report on “Three-year Report of Population Based Cancer Registries:2012-2014, Bengaluru, 2016”, Breast Cancer does not show a statistically significant increase among 25-34 age group in AAR over time whereas among 35-44 age group, significant increase (Annual Percent Change) in Bangalore (1.86%), Chennai (1.30%) and Mumbai (0.53%) is inferred.

(d): Yes, the changes in lifestyle, hormonal imbalance, body mass index and obesity are also the reasons besides several others for breast cancer.

(e): Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments for improving healthcare including prevention, diagnosis and treatment of Cancer. The objectives of National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) being implemented under National Health Mission (NHM) for interventions upto district level include awareness generation for Cancer prevention, screening, early detection and referral to an appropriate level institution for treatment. The focus is on three types of cancer namely breast, cervical and oral cancer.

A population level initiative for prevention, control and screening for common Non-Communicable Diseases (diabetes, hypertension and cancer viz. oral, breast and cervical cancer) has been rolled out in over 150 districts of the country in 2017-18 under NHM, as a part of comprehensive primary healthcare.

To build capacity for cancer research and to improve availability of cancer care, the Government of India is implementing Strengthening of Tertiary Cancer Care facility scheme of NPCDCS under which support is provided for setting up of State Cancer Institutes (SCIs) and Tertiary Cancer Care Centres (TCCCs) in the country. SCIs and TCCCs will mentor all cancer related activities. Second campus of Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute(CNCI), Kolkata and National Cancer Institute (NCI) under AIIMS, New Delhi, is also being set up. All these will enhance the capacity for prevention and treatment of cancer in the country.

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) - National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research (NICPR), has launched www.cancerindia.org.in with the theme “India Against Cancer”, a portal that provides information on the leading cancers in India with a major focus on awareness, prevention and treatment of these cancers.

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