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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 520
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9th DECEMBER, 2022

TREATMENT OF CANCER, DIABETES, CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES

520. SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:
      SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:
      MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:
      SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR:
      SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
      SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU:
      SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:
      SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT:
      SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL:
      SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:

Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made under National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) in the country including Bihar;
(b) whether there is a shortage of doctors and healthcare staff required for investigation, diagnosis and management of the said diseases causing delay in the treatment of the patients;
(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;
(d) whether the high cost of treatment of severe diseases like cancer and neurological disorders in Government hospitals has made the same unaffordable for the people belonging to Economically Weaker Section and middle class;
(e) if so, whether the Government proposes to provide free of cost and complete treatment of the said diseases; and
(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(a): The Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs under the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS), as part of National Health Mission (NHM), based on the proposals received from the States/UTs and subject to the resource envelope. The programme focuses 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 NPCDCS, 707 District NCD Clinics, 268 District Day Care Centres, 193 District Cardiac Care
Units and 5541 Community Health Center NCD Clinics has been set up. In Bihar, 38 District NCD Clinics, 6 District Cardiac Care Units and 210 Community Health Center NCD Clinics has been set up.

(b) and (c): Availability of HR for the public health facilities is responsibility of the State Govt. However, NHM provides fund to supplement the existing HR and to bridge the gap. To nudge the states towards filling the vacancies, the requirement and availability of HRH are now reviewed. The support is also provided to State/UTs for hard area allowance to health care providers for serving specially in rural and remote areas. Following types of incentives and honorarium are provided to staff for ensuring service delivery in the country including rural and remote areas.

- Hard area allowance to specialist doctors are provided for serving in rural and remote areas and for their residential quarters so that they find it attractive to serve in public health facilities in such areas.
- Incentives like special incentives for doctors, incentive for ANM for ensuring timely ANC checkup and recording, incentives for conducting adolescent reproductive and sexual health activities are provided.
- States are allowed to offer negotiable salary to attract specialist including flexibility in strategies such as “You Quote We Pay”.
- Non-monetary incentives such as preferential admission in post graduate courses for staff serving in difficult areas and improving accommodation arrangement in rural areas have also been introduced under NHM.
- Multi-skilling of doctors is supported under NHM to overcome the shortage of specialists. Skill upgradation of existing HR is another major strategy under NRHM for achieving improvement in health outcomes.

(d) to (f): Patients with non-communicable diseases including cancer and neurologic disorders are getting treatment at various health facilities in the health care delivery system including Districts Hospitals, Medical Colleges, Central Institutes like AIIMS and private sector hospitals. The treatment in Government Hospitals is either free or highly subsidized for the poor and needy.

The Central Government is also implementing Strengthening of Tertiary Care of Cancer Scheme in order to enhance the facilities for tertiary care of cancer. 19 State Cancer Institutes (SCIs) and 20 Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCCs) have been approved so far under the said scheme. Seven institutes are completed so far. Setting up of National Cancer Institute at Jhajjar (Haryana) and second campus of Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata are also steps in this direction.

There is also focus on non-communicable diseases including cancer and neurologic disorders in its various aspects in case of new AIIMS and many upgraded institutions under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY). These AIIMS have been provided with state-of-art diagnostic, medical and surgical care facilities. Cancer treatment facilities have also been planned in 13 State Govt. Medical Colleges which have been taken up for upgradation under PMSSY.

Treatment of non-communicable diseases including cancer and neurologic disorders is also available under Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY). 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 available drugs at a substantial discount vis-à-vis the Maximum Retail Price.

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