

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4931
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31st MARCH, 2023**

AFFORDABLE MEDICINES TO CANCER PATIENTS

4931. SHRI KESINENI SRINIVAS:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to boost cancer care and related research in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government ensures making affordable medicines available to cancer patients; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) & (b): Andhra Pradesh Government has signed an MoU with NCDIR-ICMR (Bengaluru) for cancer registry for the entire state and this is a 3-year programme. AP Government has signed an MoU with The Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (HBCHRC), Visakhapatnam for training the trainers in the field of Preventive Oncology for early detection and treatment. Diagnostic equipment in pathology is upgraded for assisting cancer patients with complete diagnosis in all teaching hospitals. In AP, one State Cancer Institute (SCI) - Kurnool Medical College is approved by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. The Government Cancer Facility at Guntur Medical College / Government General Hospital at Guntur is fully functional.

(c) & (d): Action taken by Government in respect of affordable medicines to cancer patients :

1. Quality generic medicines are made available at affordable prices to all, under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) in collaboration with the State Governments. A total of 900 drugs (including 50 anticancer/oncology medicines) and 154 surgicals and consumables

are currently included in the product basket of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).

Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment (AMRIT) Pharmacy stores have been set up in some hospitals/institutions, with an objective to make available Cancer drugs at a substantial discount vis-à-vis the Maximum Retail Price.

2. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority vide order S.O. 1041(E) dated 27th February 2019, has put a cap on Trade Margin of 42 selected non-scheduled anti-cancer medicines on pilot basis under 'Trade Margin Rationalization' approach.
3. The Government of India has taken several measures to encourage domestic manufacturing of Pharmaceutical drugs including its APIs / bulk drugs (including those required cancer treatment) to boost domestic manufacturing. The major Programmatic interventions to support Pharma Industries include Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for Pharmaceuticals and for the Bulk drugs, the schematic interventions are PLI scheme for Bulk Drugs and Bulk Drugs Parks scheme. The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Pharmaceuticals launched in FY 2020 - 21 provides financial incentive to 55 selected applicants for manufacturing of approved eligible products under three categories including anti-cancer drugs (Product Category – 3) for a period of six years.
