

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 21
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21ST JULY, 2023**

RTPCR-BCR ABL TESTING AT AIIMS, DELHI

***21. SHRIMATI SAJDA AHMED:**

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

- (a) the number of blood cancer patients that undergo RTPCR-BCR ABL testing at AIIMS, Delhi in a year;
- (b) whether the RTPCR-BCR ABL testing facilities for blood cancer patients have been discontinued at AIIMS, Delhi for the past few months and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the Government has received any representation in this regard and if so, the details thereof along with the necessary steps taken in this regard?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 21 FOR 21ST JULY, 2023**

(a) to (c) The total number of blood cancer patients that underwent RTPCR-BCR ABL testing at AIIMS, Delhi in 2022-23 is 2967. This test is done at the Department of Hematology and also at the unit of Laboratory Oncology, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Institute Rotatory Cancer Hospital (Dr. BRA-IRCH). This test is currently being done at the Department of Hematology, AIIMS, New Delhi and was never discontinued. However, at Dr.BRA-IRCH Laboratory Oncology the test was being conducted until March, 2023 and has discontinued thereafter for want of reagents. AIIMS, New Delhi received a representation (through email dated 15 May, 2023) from Hon'ble Member of Parliament Smt. Sajda Ahmed regarding unavailability of RTPCR-BCR ABL testing facility for blood cancer patients. RTPCR-BCR ABL testing has been resumed with effect from 19.07.2023 in Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Institute Rotatory Cancer Hospital.
