

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

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 200  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2023**

**SCREENING OF CANCER**

**\*200. SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR ALIAS VIJAY VASANTH:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) proposes to introduce/ implement measures to accelerate cancer screening measures and treatment in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that only a few districts across the country are able to effectively implement cancer screening measures with the norms of the Government and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the country is expected to witness a substantial 57.5 percent increase in cancer cases between 2020 and 2040 and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) have the potential to play a crucial role in promoting and conducting home-based cancer screening in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government is considering to harness the potential of ASHAs in the country and if so, the details thereof?

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

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 200 FOR 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2023**

(a) and (b) The Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs under the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NP-NCD). NP-NCD focuses on screening and diagnosis of oral cancer, breast cancer and cervical cancer. The programme includes the following,

- i. Strengthening infrastructure
- ii. Human resource development
- iii. Health promotion
- iv. Screening of 30 years and above population under Ayushman Arogya Mandir Scheme
- v. Early diagnosis and management
- vi. Referral to an appropriate level of healthcare facility

Population based prevention, screening and management initiative for NCDs including common cancers viz. oral, breast and cervical cancer is implemented in Ayushman Arogya Mandir as a part of comprehensive primary health care under National Health Mission (NHM). A total of 1,63,273 Ayushman Arogya Mandirs are operational across the country. A total of 18.46 Cr for oral cancer, 8.88 Cr for breast cancer and 4.96 Cr for cervical cancer are screened. The screened positive patients are referred to CHC NCD clinics and / or District Hospital NCD Clinics to get diagnosed and referred to appropriate facility for treatment. Under NP-NCD, 753 District NCD Clinics, 355 District Day Care Centres and 6237 Community Health Center NCD Clinics have been set up so far.

Department of Health Research (DHR) has established the DHR-ICMR Advanced Molecular Oncology Diagnostic Services (DIAMOnDS) Sub-scheme under which 18 centres are providing breast and lung cancer screening.

To generate awareness for Cancer prevention & treatment, following actions have been initiated: -

1. Preventive aspect of Cancer is strengthened under Comprehensive Primary Health Care through Ayushman Arogya Mandir Scheme, by promotion of wellness activities and targeted communication at the community level.

2. Public awareness creation through print, electronic and social media about promotion of healthy lifestyle including observation of National Cancer Awareness Day, World Cancer Day.
3. Healthy Eating is promoted through Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
4. Fit India movement is implemented by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
5. Various Yoga related activities are carried out by Ministry of AYUSH.

Action taken by Government in respect of infrastructure are:

1. The Central Government implements Strengthening of Tertiary Care Cancer Facilities Scheme. 19 State Cancer Institutes (SCIs) and 20 Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCCs) have been approved under the said scheme. The details are attached at Annexure 1.
2. National Cancer Institute at Jhajjar (Haryana) and second campus of Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata have also been setup.
3. All new AIIMS and 13 upgraded existing Government Medical Colleges/Institutions under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY) also focus on treatment of cancer. The details are attached at Annexure 2.

To facilitate accessible and affordable healthcare and treatment, the following steps have been taken: -

1. Under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), health insurance cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year for secondary or tertiary care hospitalization to 12 Crore beneficiary families is provided. The Health Benefit Package (HBP) 2022 provides treatment corresponding to a total of 1,121 treatment packages comprising of 1,949 procedures across 27 different specialties for NCDs. 549 procedures are related to cancer. As of 7th December 2023, a total of 35.07 lakh hospital admissions amounting to Rs 6572.25 Crores have been authorized through a network of 1980 hospitals.
2. Financial assistance is provided to poor patients belonging to families living below poverty line, suffering from major life-threatening diseases including cancer under Umbrella scheme of Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) and Health Minister's Discretionary Grant (HMDG). Financial assistance up to a maximum of Rs. 1,25,000/- is provided under HMDG to defray a part of the treatment cost and the maximum financial assistance provided under the Umbrella Scheme of RAN is Rs. 15 lakhs.
3. 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, to make available Cancer drugs at a substantial discount vis-à-vis the Maximum Retail Price.

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has identified the topic - measures to accelerate cancer screening, early diagnosis and treatment- as a National Health Research Priority and initiated research in these topics. It is aimed to improve coverage and quality of cancer screening through existing health care system using accepted and validated methods.

(c) As per the Indian Council of Medical Research – National Cancer Registry Programme (ICMR - NCRP), the estimated incidence of cancer cases is increasing in the country for the year (2020-2022) and the details are given below.

<b>Estimated incidence of cancer cases (2020-2022) – Both Sexes</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Estimated incidence of cancer cases in India	13,92,179	14,26,447	14,61,427

The incidence of cancer cases is projected to increase from 14.61 lakhs in 2022 to 15.7 lakhs in 2025.

(d) and (e): The Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHAs) does risk assessment of individuals in the age groups of thirty years and above by using Community Based Assessment Checklist (CBAC) forms and bring the individuals to Ayushman Arogya Mandir (AAM) for screening of common NCDs (hypertension, diabetes, oral cancer, breast cancer and cervical cancer). Community follow up of identified individuals has been carried out by ASHA by making visits for lifestyle changes, treatment compliances, and encouraging patients to go to the health care centres for regular follow-up of cancer. The continuity of care is ensured through AAM- Sub Health Centres, AAM- Primary Health Centres, District Hospitals and other tertiary care institutions in both rural and urban areas. Training Module has been developed for ASHAs and regular training has been conducted on screening of common NCDs.

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Table of SCIs/TCCCs:

S No	State	Name of the Institute	SCI / TCCC
1	Andhra Pradesh	Kurnool Medical College, Kurnool	SCI
2	Assam	Gauhati Medical College & Hospital, Guwahati	SCI
3	Bihar	Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna	SCI
4	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh Institute of Medical Sciences, Bilaspur	SCI
5	Delhi	Lok Nayak Hospital	TCCC
6	Gujarat	Gujarat Cancer Research Institute, Ahmedabad	SCI
7	Goa	Goa Medical College, Panaji	TCCC
8	Haryana	Civil Hospital, Ambala Cantt	TCCC
9	Himachal Pradesh	Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla	TCCC
10	Himachal Pradesh	Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Medical College, Mandi	TCCC
11	Jammu &	Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, Srinagar	SCI
12	Kashmir	Government Medical College, Jammu	SCI
13	Jharkhand	Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences, Ranchi	SCI
14	Karnataka	Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology (RCC), Bengaluru	SCI
15		Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences, Mandya	TCCC
16	Kerala	Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram	SCI
17		Government Medical College, Kozhikode	TCCC
18	Madhya Pradesh	G.R. Medical College, Gwalior	TCCC
19		Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Medical College, Jabalpur	SCI
20	Maharashtra	Rashtasant Tukdoji Regional Cancer Hospital & Research Centre, Nagpur	TCCC
21		Government Medical College, Aurangabad	SCI
22		Vivekanand Foundation & Research Centre, Latur	TCCC
23	Mizoram	Mizoram State Cancer Institute, Aizawl	TCCC
24	Nagaland	District Hospital, Kohima	TCCC
25	Odisha	Acharya Harihar Regional Cancer Centre, Cuttack	SCI
26	Punjab	Government Medical College, Amritsar	SCI
27		Civil Hospital, Fazilka	TCCC
28	Rajasthan	S P Medical College, Bikaner	TCCC
29		SMS Medical College, Jaipur	SCI
30		Jhalawar Medical College & Hospital, Jhalawar	TCCC
31	Sikkim	Multispecialty Hospital at Sochyang (Sichey), near Gangtok, Sikkim	TCCC
32	Tamil Nadu	Cancer Institute (RCC), Adyar, Chennai	SCI
33	Telangana	MNJ Institute of Oncology & RCC, Hyderabad	SCI
34	Tripura	Cancer Hospital (RCC), Agartala	SCI
35	Uttar Pradesh	Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow	TCCC
36	Uttarakhand	Government Medical College, Haldwani	SCI
37	West Bengal	Government Medical College, Burdwan	TCCC
38		Murshidabad Medical College & Hospital, Berhampore, Murshidabad	TCCC
39		Sagore Dutta Memorial Medical College and Hospital, Kolkata	TCCC

**Table 1: Cancer Treatment Facility is approved in all New AIIMS**

<b>Sl.</b>	<b>AIIMS</b>		<b>Sl.</b>	<b>AIIMS</b>
1	Bhopal		12	Bathinda
2	Bhubaneswar		13	Guwahati
3	Jodhpur		14	Bilaspur
4	Patna		15	Deoghar
5	Raipur		16	Jammu
6	Rishikesh		17	Kashmir
7	Raebareli		18	Madurai
8	Mangalagiri		19	Rajkot
9	Nagpur		20	Bibinagar
10	Kalyani		21	Manethi
11	Gorakhpur		22	Darbhanga

**Table 2: List of Govt. Medical Colleges/Institutions taken up for upgradation for cancer treatment**

<b>Sl.</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Name of Govt Medical College</b>	<b>Facility</b>
1.	Jharkhand	RIMS Ranchi	Oncology Block
2.	Punjab	Govt Medical College Amritsar	Oncology
3.	Himachal Pradesh	Rajendra Prasad Govt. Medical College, Tanda	Oncology
4.	Karnataka	Karnataka Institute of Medical Sciences, Hubli	Medical Oncology
5.	Rajasthan	SP Medical College, Bikaner	Surgical Oncology
6.	Rajasthan	RNT Medical College, Udaipur	Radiotherapy/Oncology
7.	Telangana	Kakatiya Medical College, Warangal	Medical Oncology
8.	Uttar Pradesh	Govt Medical College, Gorakhpur	Surgical Oncology
9.	Uttar Pradesh	M.L.N Government Medical College, Allahabad	Surgical Oncology
10.	Uttar Pradesh	LLRM Medical College, Meerut.	Radiotherapy
11.	Uttar Pradesh	Govt Medical College, Agra	Radiation /Medical Oncology
12.	Bihar	Patna	Radiotherapy (equipment)
13.	Kerala	Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences & Technology, Thiruvananthapuram	Imaging Services and Interventional Radiotherapy