

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1915
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2019**

PROGRAMMES TO CONTAIN DIABETES

**1915. DR. VISHNU PRASAD M.K.:
SHRI GOPAL CHINNAYA SHETTY:**

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

- (a) whether as per World Health Organisation (WHO) India accounts for nearly 6.5 crore patients of diabetes which is likely to increase to 10.5 crore by the year 2035, if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether twenty per cent of the total diabetes patients suffer from Retinopathy which at times leads even to the loss of vision and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is also aware that one in seven diabetics is visually impaired, which is 10 times higher than the global average;
- (d) if so, whether any programmes have been prepared for creating mass awareness among the public, especially among diabetics to prevent impairment in vision and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the specific measures being taken to contain Retinopathy, glaucoma, Cataract and other complication of eyes arising out of the incidence of diabetes along with the amount spent for the treatment of diabetes in the country during each of the last three years and the current year till date?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): As informed by Indian Council of Medical Research(ICMR), as per report of the International Diabetes Federation Atlas, India accounts for over 7.29 crore people with diabetes and the number of people with diabetes is estimated to increase to 13.4 crores by 2045.

India aims to halt rise in prevalence of diabetes by 2025. Government of India is implementing National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke(NPCDCS) for interventions upto district level under the National Health Mission(NHM), with focus on strengthening infrastructure, human resource development, health promotion & awareness generation, early diagnosis, management and referral to an appropriate level institution for treatment and follow up of non-communicable diseases including diabetes.

To tackle the challenge of Non Communicable Diseases (NCD) including diabetes, 599 NCD Clinics at District level and 3,274 NCD Clinics at Community Health Centre level have been set up under the programme. Treatment for diabetes is also available at other health facilities run by the Central and State Governments. Population level initiative for prevention, control and screening for common NCDs (diabetes, hypertension and common cancers viz. oral, breast and cervical cancer) has also been rolled out under the National Health Mission (NHM) in over 215 districts. Screening of common NCDs including diabetes is also an integral part of service delivery under Ayushman Bharat - Health and Wellness Centres.

(b): The prevalence of any form of diabetic retinopathy (DR) in diabetic population aged more than 50 years was 16.9% as per the findings of the National Diabetic Retinopathy Survey (2015-19) conducted in 21 selected districts of the country under National Program for Control of Blindness and Visual Impairment (NPCBVI).

Diabetic retinopathy, if not diagnosed and treated on time, can lead to permanent blindness. Further, uncontrolled diabetes can also lead to diabetic retinopathy.

(c): The prevalence of visual impairment in diabetic population aged more than 50 years was 13.7% as per the findings of the National Diabetic Retinopathy Survey. According to the report of Dr. Rajendra Prasad Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences, AIIMS, New Delhi, one in every seven persons in age group more than 50 years and above is visually impaired in India and it is similar in both diabetic and non-diabetic population.

(d): Information, Education and Communication (IEC) is an ongoing activity under NPCBVI to create mass awareness among the public including diabetics to prevent impairment in vision, through print, electronic and digital media. Special campaigns are undertaken during the World Sight Day to educate people about the measures to prevent impairment in vision.

(e): The following specific measures are being taken under NPCBVI to contain diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, cataract and other complications of eyes arising out of the incidence of diabetes:

1. Eye screening of diabetic patients for diabetic retinopathy.
2. Grant in aid for performing cataract surgeries to Government, Non-Governmental Organizations and Private Practitioners.
3. Grant in aid to Non-Governmental Organizations and Private Practitioners for treatment and management of other eye diseases viz. glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy etc.
4. In-service training of eye surgeons for up-gradation of skills for early diagnosis and treatment of eye diseases.
5. Sensitization workshops for District Ophthalmologists for early detection and treatment of glaucoma.
6. One time grant to Regional Institutes of Ophthalmology and Government Medical Colleges for strengthening their infrastructure to improve quality of care.
7. Provision of non-mydratic fundus camera and tele-ophthalmology to expand the eye care services at primary health centres.
8. IEC activities for awareness generation.