

Cancer hospital in Rajasthan

†1719. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cancer patients in the country at present;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the number of cancer patients is increasing every year;
- (c) if so, whether Government proposes to open separate cancer hospital in Rajasthan;
- (d) if so, by when; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): (a) As per information collected by Population Based Cancer Registry functioning under the National Cancer Registry Programme of the Indian Council of Medical Research, it has been estimated that at any given point of time, there are 27 lakh cancer patients in the country.

(b) According to the report of National Cancer Registry Programme, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) on "Time Trends in Cancer Incidence Rates (1982-2005)", the number of cancer patients is growing over the years at an average of approximately 1.2% per year.

(c) to (e) No. The Government has already recognized S.P. Medical College, Bikaner as Regional Cancer Centre under the National Cancer Control Programme for carrying out research activity and providing cost effective comprehensive cancer care to the poor and needy cancer patients.

Man-power shortage in mental healthcare sector

1720. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a man-power shortage in the mental healthcare sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.