

Better cancer treatment facilities in Government run hospitals

1319. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that treatment of cancer costs World Economy by one trillion US Dollar;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the cancer treatment in India is very costly;
- (c) whether better cancer treatment facilities do not exist in Government run hospitals; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):
(a) No such information is available.

(b) The treatment of cancer is through Surgery, Radiotherapy, Chemotherapy and supportive care. In the Government health care delivery system, including Government Medical Colleges and referral institutions is either free or subsidized for the poor and needy. However, treatment in the private sector is often costly due to high cost of infrastructure and drugs.

(c) The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Government by providing financial assistance to the Medical Colleges/Hospitals for upgrading the Medical infrastructure for providing cost effective treatment to the cancer patients. Diagnosis and treatment of cancer is available in the health care delivery system at various level in District Hospitals, Medical Colleges and tertiary apex centres. In addition, comprehensive cancer detection and management facilities are provided by 27 Regional Cancer Centres across the country.

(d) The Government of India has recently launched a comprehensive National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS). The new programme envisages providing diagnostic services, basic surgery, chemotherapy and palliative care to cancer patients at 100 districts across 21 States.

Effective implementation of NHM

1320. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the launch of National Health Mission (NHM) has been successful so far;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether key health indicators viz. Infant Mortality Ratio and Maternal Mortality Ratio are still the areas of concern;