

Special focus on cancer treatment

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

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a study one in six cancer cases is caused by preventable infection;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in India viral infections account for 25-30 per cent of all cervical cancers;

(c) whether Government is giving special focus on treating cancers in all the Government hospitals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), a study on "Global burden of cancers attributable to infections in 2008: a review and synthetic analysis" published by International Agency for Research on Cancer reported that of the 12.7 million new cancer cases that occurred in 2008, the population attributable fraction (PAF) for infectious agents was 16.1%; meaning around 2 million new cancer cases were due infections.

(b) Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) is an important risk factor in causation of cervical cancer. HPVs are a group of more than 150 related viruses. High risk HPV infection accounts for approximately 5 percent of all cancers worldwide. Virtually all cervical cancers are caused by HPV infections, with just two HPV types, 16 and 18, responsible for about 70 percent of all cases. Most high risk HPV infections occur without any symptoms, go away within 1 to 2 years and do not cause cancer. Persistent infections with HPV can progress to cancer.

(c) and (d) Health is a State subject and the Central Government is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial assistance to Government Medical Colleges/Hospitals/Institutions. The Government of India had launched a comprehensive National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases & Stroke (NPCDCS) in 2010 and the programme envisages implementation in 100 districts across 21 States during 2010-2012. Under Cancer component of NPCDCS, the district hospitals are strengthened for early diagnosis of Cancer, chemotherapy facilities and palliative

care to Cancer patients. The programme also envisages strengthening Government Medical Colleges/Hospitals and erstwhile Regional Cancer Centres across the country as Tertiary Cancer Centre (TCC) for providing comprehensive Cancer care services. These TCCs are eligible for financial assistance upto Rs. 6.00 crore (Rs. 4.80 crore from Central Government and Rs. 1.20 crore from State Government). Besides, this Ministry has recognized 27 Regional Cancer Centres under the National Cancer Control Programme in various States/UTs for carrying out research activity and providing cost effective treatment to the poor and needy cancer patients.

Dengue menace in Delhi

565. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the mosquito menace in Delhi, if so, the number of patients found afflicted by dengue fever as of now; and

(b) whether there has been unprecedented increase in the mosquito population, if so, how Government proposes to meet the challenge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) Yes, 9 dengue cases have been reported from Delhi in 2012 (till 31st July).

(b) No.

Modernisation of BCG vaccine laboratory, Guindy

566. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest status of the BCG Vaccine Laboratory at Guindy, Chennai;

(b) whether Government has decided to modernise the BCG Vaccine Laboratory at Guindy, Chennai; and

(c) if so, the time-frame to complete the same?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Consequent upon revocation of suspension of vaccine manufacturing license in 2010, the production of BCG vaccine has resumed in BCG Vaccine Laboratory, Guindy. The batches produced have been sent to Central Drugs Laboratory (CDL), Kasauli for testing.