

Oncology in its various aspects has focus in case of new AIIMS and many upgraded institutions under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY). The proposal of setting up of National Cancer Institute at Jhajjar and development of 2nd campus of Chittranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata has also been approved. Financial assistance to patients is also provided under the Health Minister's Discretionary Grant and Health Minister's Cancer Patient Fund under Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi. The treatment in Government institutions is either free or subsidized.

(c) 27 Regional Cancer Centres were recognized and supported under the erstwhile National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) for treatment of cancer patients. In the 12th FYP, the NCCP is no longer in operation.

(d) There is no central data available to ascertain the quantum of shortage of cancer specialists in the country. However, to increase the number of seats in Super speciality courses in Medical Oncology, Surgical Oncology and broad speciality course in radiotherapy, the ratio of number of Post-graduate teachers to the number of students to be admitted has been now increased to 1:3 for a Professor subject to a maximum of 6 PG seats per unit per academic year. Human Resource Development is also focus under PMSSY. The National Cancer Institute at Jhajjar and 2nd campus of Chittranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata also have a mandate for capacity building. The mandate of State Cancer Institutes (SCI) and Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCC) supported under NPCDCS includes enhancing of trained manpower for cancer.

Resurfacing of TB in the country

251. SHRI H.K. DUA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the reports that a large number of anti-TB drugs have developed resistance among TB patients and if so, which are these drugs;

(b) the steps Government is going to take to stop the prescription and distribution of these drugs in the country;

(c) whether research is going on in the country on development of new drugs to fight the TB menace which has during the last few years again became manifest;

(d) if so, the progress thereof; and

(e) the approximate total number of TB patients as well as specialist doctors available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) The Government is aware about development of resistance to anti-TB drugs by some patients taking anti-TB treatment.

Insofar as patients on treatment with first line anti-TB drugs used for drug-sensitive TB are concerned, resistance is mainly found to be for two drugs, namely, Rifampicin and Isoniazid. For drug resistant TB patients on second line anti-TB drugs, some patients are found to be resistant to fluoroquinolones and injectables like kanamycin, capreomycin or amikacin.

(b) No such steps are envisaged. Cases of drug resistant TB constitute a small percentage of the total number of TB cases. However, the Government has included in the programme provisions for prevention and early diagnosis of drug resistant TB and treatment of such drug resistant TB cases.

(c) and (d) As reported by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), while research is going on to test treatment regimens, research on new TB drugs is at a very early stage, with testing of few molecules and *in vitro* and in animal models.

(e) According to the WHO Global TB Report, 2013, the Estimated TB Burden (prevalence) in India is 2.8 million cases : 230 cases per 100,000 population per year.

Data on specialist doctors who are capable of managing Tuberculosis is not maintained centrally.

Guidelines for treatment of poor people

252. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that guidelines have been issued to private hospitals for treatment of poor people at free/ concessional rates;

(b) if so, the number of poor patients treated in private hospitals free of cost during the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is misrepresentation of facts by the private hospitals; and

(d) if so, the authority responsible for their monitoring?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI HARSH VARDHAN): (a) to (d) Health is a State subject, no such information is maintained centrally. However, in so far as the Government of NCT of Delhi is concerned, information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Revival of MSME sector

253. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to set up a task force to review and revive Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector;