

**Rise in cancer cases in Delhi**

†1061. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been rise in the number of cancer patients in Delhi;
- (b) if so, the reasons attributed for it by experts;
- (c) whether vehicular pollution is being reported as one of the reasons for cancer in Delhi; and
- (d) the details of steps being taken by Government keeping in view the rising number of cancer patients in the country, so that this rise can be checked?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) and (b) Yes. According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the number of cancer patients is increasing in Delhi. The increase in the number of cases may be attributed to larger number of ageing population, unhealthy life styles, use of tobacco and tobacco products, unhealthy diet, better diagnostic facilities etc.

(c) According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), there is no specific study to prove that cancer is associated with vehicular population in Delhi. However, ICMR also stated that fuel combustion produces a number of air pollutant substances that have been linked to ill health and premature mortality. A WHO study "Health effects of Transport Related Air Pollution" indicates an increased risk of various types of cancer in people with prolonged exposure to higher levels of transport-related air pollution.

(d) While Health is a State subject, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments for improving healthcare including prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer. In addition, Government of India is implementing a comprehensive National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke (NPCDCS).

The Government of India has in the year 2013-14, also approved a scheme for enhancing the Tertiary Care Cancer facilities in the country. Under this scheme (Tertiary component of NPCDCS), Government of India will assist 20 State Cancer Institutes (SCI) and 50 Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCC) in different parts of the country. The maximum assistance inclusive of State Share for SCI is ₹120 crores and for TCCC is ₹45 crores. The Central and State share will be in the ratio 75:25, and for North East and Hill States this ratio would be 90:10.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.