

Cancer Hospitals in Odisha

264. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of demand to have a Regional Cancer Institute at Bhawanipatna in Kalahandi District in Odisha; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) and (b) A proposal for strengthening of District Hospital, Bhawanipatna as Tertiary Care Cancer Centre (TCCC) has been received from Government of Odisha on 12.11.2014.

Acute shortage of nephrologists

265. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of nephrologists in the country;

(b) if so, the present ratio of nephrologists to patients suffering from kidney diseases in the country and the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the details of immediate steps being taken by Government to overcome the shortage of nephrologists in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) and (b) The Government is aware that there is shortage of doctors, particularly specialists in the country. The data relating to number of nephrologists in the country is not maintained centrally. However, as per information furnished by Medical Council of India (MCI), the total number of seats in nephrology in India at various Medical Colleges/Institutes is 93.

(c) In order to meet the shortage of doctors/specialists in the country, the Government has already taken a large number of steps which include:

- (i.) Relaxation in the norms for setting up of a medical college in terms of requirement for land, faculty, staff, bed/ bed strength and other infrastructure.

- (ii.) Enhancement of maximum intake capacity at MBBS level from 150 to 250.
- (iii.) Enhancement of age limit for appointment/extension/re-employment against posts of teachers/dean/principal/ director in medical colleges from 65-70 years.
- (iv.) Financial support to State Medical Colleges, under the scheme of “Strengthening and Upgradation of State Government Medical Colleges”, to increase postgraduate seats in various disciplines or to start new postgraduate medical courses.
- (v.) Establishment of eight AIIMS-like institutions (six in first phase and two in second phase) in the country under PMSSY.

Introduction of three years medical degree courses

266. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to introduce three years medical degree course for healthcare in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons for introducing this course and its benefits;
- (c) the difference between the existing MBBS course and proposed new course; and
- (d) the details thereof which proposed to introduce the new course, State-wise and college-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) to (c) No. However, the Central Government has approved introduction of a course namely, Bachelor of Science (Community Health). The main reason and objective of the proposed course is to create mid-level health professionals who would possess the necessary public health and ambulatory care competencies to serve the rural population.

(d) The Central Government, till now, has received willingness from the States of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Assam to introduce the course.

Treatment of Ebola cases in private hospitals

267. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a major portion of patient load in India is handled by the private healthcare system;