

who have WHO clinical stage I and II are initiated on ART, if CD4 is less than 350 according to the national guidelines for ART treatment.

(e) Under National AIDS Control Programme, (NACP) Phase-IV, there is currently no plan to achieve universal Antiretroviral treatment in the country.

Loss of eye sights during eye camps

2058. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of people have lost their eye sight during the eye camp organised by the different State Governments/NGOs in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof for past three years, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard along with the measures adopted by Government to prevent re-occurrence of such incident?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) to (c) As per the extant procedure, prior to eye surgery, the eyes are screened either in the eye camps or OPD. However, eye surgeries are done in the hospitals. Further, it is true that there have been sporadic reports of loss of eye sight by the patients which were operated upon by eye surgeons engaged by different State Governments and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the country. The details of major eye mishaps as reported by the concerned State Governments during 2013, 2014, 2015 and till date as well as action taken by the concerned State Government in these cases are given in the Statement (*See below*).

In view of these eye mishaps and the fact that the 'Health' is a State subject, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare took following measures to prevent re-occurrence of such incidents in future:-

- (i) National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) has circulated "Preoperative, intra-operative and post-operative guidelines" for strict compliance by the eye surgeons and all eye care units including NGO eye hospitals in the country to improve quality of eye surgery and avoid eye mishaps.
- (ii) Referring to the provision of guidelines issued under the NPCB, an advisory was issued to all States/UTs regarding precaution to be followed on Ophthalmic Surgeries to avoid cases of loss of vision. This advisory States, *inter-alia*, that eye operations are to be done only in fixed operation theatres exclusive for eye surgeries. Camps are permitted only

for screening of patients and bringing them to the base hospital for eye surgeries. All NGOs and voluntary organization approved under NPCB need to sign a MOU with the district authority as per the guidelines issued under NPCB. The advisory also states that all the other NGOs operating but not registered under NPCB are required to obtain the necessary permission from the State Health Authorities for approval of the hospital or OPD work and the operation theatres for conducting eye surgeries. The State authorities need to develop their own guidelines/mechanism for this purpose. In case of any negligence on the part of voluntary organization, appropriate penal action should be taken by the State authorities against them.

- (iii) It has been stressed time and again during various review meetings under NPCB that the State Governments should strictly follow the NPCB guidelines to avoid eye mishaps and to improve quality of eye surgery in the country.
- (iv) All the Government and private eye surgeons in all districts of States/UTs have been sensitized to strictly adhere to norms of NPCB and observe universal surgical precautions.
- (v) A Committee of experts has been constituted to reassess the existing guidelines for the surgery under NPCB in view of these mishaps.

Statement*Details related to major eye mishaps in States/UTs during 2013, 2014, 2015 and till date*

Sl. No.	Month and Year	Place of surgery	Organizing team	No. of operations performed	No. of persons blind/ seriously affected	Reason of mishap	Action taken by States/UTs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	March, 2014	Salaria Eye Hospital, Pathankot, Punjab	Nagni Mata Prabandhak Committee at District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh (NGO)	60	15	Infection due to bacteria in eye drop	All the Chief Medical Officer of the districts in Himachal Pradesh have been directed to follow the guidelines of the Government of India for granting permission for organizing eye camps in the State. All the Non-Governmental Organizations and Voluntary Organization working in Himachal Pradesh approved under NPCB need to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the district authorities concerned as per the existing guidelines.
2.	December, 2014	Guru Nanak Charitable Hospital, Ghuman, Distt. Gurdaspur, Punjab	SKM Netralaya, Mathura, U.P. (NGO)	130	29	Infection due to contaminated fluid for washing eyes and/or	Chief Minister of the State has announced and interim relief of ₹ 1 lakh to each of the affected families whose members have lost eye sight

						contaminated operating instruments	in the mishap and a monthly pension of ₹ 2000/- to each person rendered blind in this camp.
3.	November, 2014	Private Clinic, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh	Banke Behari Netra Chikitsalaya, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh (NGO)	12	11	Infection due to negligence in operation and post operative care	The affected patients treated at Government Medical College Agra, Uttar Pradesh.
4.	October, 2015	District Hospital, Washim, Maharashtra	District Hospital, Washim	171	34	Infection due to faulty sterilization practices	The affected patients were provided treatment at J.J. Hospital, Mumbai and Government Medical College, Akola Maharashtra.
5.	November, 2015	Ginni Devi Netra Chikitsalaya Modinagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	Ginni Devi Netra Chikitsalaya Modinagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	10	8	Infection due to contaminated eye drops	The affected patients were provided treatment at Dr. R.P. Centre. New Delhi.
6.	November, 2015	District Hospital Badwani, Indore, Madhya Pradesh	District Hospital, Badwani, Indore, Madhya Pradesh	86	68	Infection due to negligence in compliance of protocol for eye surgery	The affected patients were refer for treatment at Aurobindo Medical College, Indore. Teams of eye surgeons from Dr. R.P. Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences, New Delhi and Dte. GHS were deputed to examine the patients and provide necessary treatment.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	December, 2015	Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya, Chitrakoot, Satna, Madhya Pradesh	Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya, Chitrakoot, Satna, Madhya Pradesh	28	20	Administration of Avastin injection	Drugs Controller General of India has constituted a committee to look into the issue of use of avastin DCGI has also issued alert notice on use of avastin. Further, the affected patients have been provided necessary treatment for recovery.
8.	January, 2016	M/s C.H. Nagri Eye Hospital, Ahmedabad, Gujarat	M/s C.H. Nagri Eye Hospital, Ahmedabad, Gujarat	18	15	Administration of Avastin injection	
9.	January, 2016	Sir Sunder Lal Hospital at BHU, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh	Sir Sunder Lal Hospital at BHU, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh	7	5	Administration of Avastin injection	