Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Request to sanction dialysis units in East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh.

SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH (KAKINADA): Thank you, hon. Chairperson Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, I request you to sanction dialysis units in East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh. If we ask a poor patient, who has to undergo dialysis twice or thrice a week and does not get that facility, he cannot explain his pain, agony, and his miserable condition because he does not have the means to go to private hospital, and in Government hospital, he has to wait for weeks together to register himself for dialysis. To address the problems of such sections of society, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare rolled out the Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme under NHM to provide free dialysis services to poor and downtrodden people. This Scheme, to my mind, has been rolled out keeping in view more than two lakh new patients of end stage renal disease who get added every year, resulting in an additional annual demand of 3.4 crore dialysis. The country has only 4,950 dialysis centres but they largely come under the private sector, which the poor cannot afford, because every dialysis has an additional expenditure of Rs. 2,000, which amounts to Rs. 3 lakh to 4 lakh every year.

When it comes to my district, the demand for dialysis units here is more because people from other districts also come to Rajahmundry and Kakinada for dialysis. Patients are forced to wait for three to four days for their turn.

माननीय सभापति : आप अपनी मांग रखिए ।

SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH: Sir, I will take half a minute.

In view of the above, I request, the hon. Health Minister, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, to take a view on this and instruct the officials concerned in the Ministry to set up minimum of 25 dialysis units in Rajahmundry, Kakinada, and Amalapuram.

Thank you.

HON. CHAIRPERSON : Shri Raghu Rama Krishna Raju, please take one minute only.

SHRI RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU (NARSAPURAM): Yes, Sir, I will take only one minute.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: This applies to every hon. Member.