

**Need for customs duty and tax exemption on machines and medicines used for treatment of kidney disease.-laid**

**SHRI EATALA RAJENDER (MALKAJGIRI):** I would like to draw the kind attention of the Government towards the proposal for exemption of customs duty and Government taxes on life-saving kidney failure therapies and medications. As we all know, kidney failure is a life-threatening condition that requires ongoing medical treatment, including dialysis and kidney transplants. Many patients in India struggle to afford essential therapies due to the high cost of imported dialysis machines, consumables, and transplant medications. It is heartening to know that the Central Government is offering kidney patients lifetime dialysis and transplantation services through the Ayushman Bharath Programme and Prime Minister National Dialysis Programme (PMNDP). Through various State Programmes, State Governments also assist kidney patients with dialysis and transplants. Patients who are not eligible for these programmes are paying out of pocket, which causes families to incur unmanageable costs. The additional weight of Government taxes and customs duty further increases the financial hardship on patients and their families. I urge the Central Government to take prompt action in this regard to support patients suffering from chronic kidney disease.