

## **Regarding increasing incidences of cancer in Assam- Laid**

**SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA (KAZIRANGA):** The region is witnessing an alarming rise in the number of cancer patients and a corresponding high fatality rate in recent years. As per report, the Northeast has the highest incidence of cancer in India and the number of cancer cases is projected to increase in the region by 13.5% by 2025. The cancer cases in Assam have increased rapidly and Kamrup (M) reported 170 cancer cases per one lakh population among women according to data released by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). The above alarming facts have been revealed in the National Cancer Registry Programme report for 2020 released by the ICMR and National Centre for Disease Informatics and Research (NCDIR). In Assam, around 32,949 people are affected with cancer every year of which 18,258 are male while 14,691 are female. This number is based upon the crude number of cancer patients registered in three Population-based Cancer Registries of Assam stationed at Guwahati, Dibrugarh, and Cachar districts considering 60% of the population are from rural areas. In India, Kamrup Urban district showed the highest annual increase in the incidence of cancer at 3.8%, whereas, Dibrugarh district showed a decline of 1.3% in the incidence of cancer among men. The proportion of tobacco-related cancers in Assam for men was 52% and around 22% for women. South Asia's Largest Cancer Care Network. Assam Cancer Care Foundation is a joint initiative between the Government of Assam and the Tata Trusts. I would like to inform that 19 Cancer treatment hospitals are established by the Govt of Assam. Govt should implement schemes/ camps for an early detection of cancer. A mission should be implemented to make the society cancer free. There are many hospitals for cancer treatment and Ayushman cards are provided to poor people. But it is not sufficient for them and the poor are not able to afford the cost of treatment. There is an urgent need to develop a comprehensive cancer control programme in Assam. A special awareness drive should be implemented for the public to prevent cancer. In my constituency, I have received 259 applications; out of this 70 are in relation to cancer.