

Title: Regarding financial assistance being given to cancer patients by Ambedkar Foundation.

*SHRI M. SHIVANNA (CHAMARAJANAGAR): Mr Speaker Sir, the Prime Minister relief fund is helping the poor people who are suffering from various diseases like cancer, heart problems, etc. Generally an amount of Rs 30,000 is being granted to the patients who are getting treatment in various hospitals. Similarly Ambedkar Foundation is also helping patients belonging to SC/ST communities who are undergoing medical treatment. But strangely only ten hospitals have been included for this purpose. These hospitals are: 1. AIIMS, New Delhi, 2. Sanjay Gandhi Hospital, UP, 3. Patna Medical Hospital, Patna, 4. Jabalpur Hospital, Jabalpur, 5. B. Barua Cancer Institute, Guwahati, 6. Birla Heart Foundation, 7. Kalinga Hospital, Bhubaneswar, 8. Tata Cancer Research Institute, Mumbai, 9. Institute of Medical Science, Hyderabad, 10. Nizam Institute of Medical Science, Hyderabad, and 10. One Health Services in Chennai.

Sir, not even a single hospital from Bangalore has been included in this list. As this august House is aware there are a number of very good hospitals which are treating patients from foreign countries also. Some of these are: 1. NIMHANS, 2. Kidwai Cancer Institute, 3. Narayana Hridualaya, 4. Manipal Hospital, 5. Mallaya Hospital, 6. Victoria Hospital and 7. Bowring Hospital.

I therefore request the hon. Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, through you Sir, to consider my genuine request to include at least two Bangalore hospitals in the list and the patients should be given financial assistance from the Ambedkar Foundation. I hope my humble request would be considered favourably and all the SC/ST patients undergoing treatment in Bangalore will also be given financial assistance.

Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.