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Title: Need to provide sufficient financial support for establishment of Cancer Treatment and Research Centre at Cochin, Kerala.

SHRI CHARLES DIAS (NOMINATED): Cancer patients are increasing day by day in Kerala especially in the central part of the State, due to various unhealthy situation including atmospheric and industrial pollution. It was an injustice that the first Regional Cancer Centre which should have been established in the central part of Kerala was established in Thiruvananthapuram, the southernmost part of the State in the name of Capital city. Now, cancer patients even from distant Malabar area have to reach here for treatment. This is a cruelty to these patients as traveling long distance is not advisable before and after radiation treatment. Voluntary organizations are now helping patients to travel to Thiruvananthapuram and provide shelter after radiation treatment.

Cochin is the commercial capital of Kerala and it is reported that Cancer patients are increasing in this area due to various reasons. But, there is no facility for Cancer treatment now at this area. Due to this, poor patients are suffering and in Government Hospital, Ernakulam patients are facing difficulties even for primary treatment. It was under these circumstances that the prominent citizens and people's representatives joined together and urged Government of Kerala to establish a Cancer Treatment and Research Centre at Cochin. Even though Government of Kerala has decided to establish such a centre at Kalamasserry, Cochin near the Cooperative Medical College, no effective steps have been initiated in this regard. I urge upon the Central Government to provide sufficient financial support and help this project to materialize at an early date, as delay will cause many more people to suffer.