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Title: Need to include Malabar Cancer Centre, Tellicherry, under Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi Scheme.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN (VADAKARA): Malabar Cancer Centre (MCC), Tellicherry is a prestigious Institute under Government of Kerala that caters to 50% of Kerala population and hundreds of patients from Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Mahe (Puduchery). MCC has applied through Government of Kerala to include it in the list of recognized Government Cancer Hospitals under Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) scheme for obtaining financial assistance for the treatment of poor patients. However, Government of India has rejected the request stating that MCC has not been identified as State Cancer Institute or Tertiary Care Cancer Centre. It may be noted that MCC has been raised to the status of Tertiary Cancer Centre and has received financial assistance under TCC scheme during the year 2012. MCC is also providing free treatment to the majority of patients using various financial assistance schemes. Considering these facts, I earnestly appeal to the Government to include MCC Tellichery under Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi scheme.