

:-The Centre Reviews Special Support Plan for Cancer-Affected Regions, Says Minister.

:-The Cancer Care Expanded Across Haryana; Treatment Facilities Available in All 22 Districts.

:-The Union Minister Responds to Kumari Selja's Cancer Concerns, Highlights Healthcare Measures.

:-The Government Strengthening Cancer Services Amid Concerns Over Polluted Water and Rising Cases.

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Responding to concerns raised in the Lok Sabha by Sirsa MP and former Union Minister Kumari Selja regarding rising cancer cases and polluted water in parts of Haryana, Union Minister of State for AYUSH and Health Prataprao Jadhav said the Centre is extending support to states through various schemes to strengthen healthcare services in cancer-affected regions. In a written reply, the minister stated that under the National Health Mission (NHM), financial and technical assistance is

being provided to states for the prevention, screening and treatment of cancer and other serious diseases. Healthcare infrastructure is also being strengthened under the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission.

The minister informed Parliament that Haryana currently has Day Care Cancer Centres operating in all 22 district hospitals. The state also has 22 district-level Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) clinics, 157 Community Health Centre-level NCD clinics, and chemotherapy services available in five district hospitals. He added that cancer treatment facilities in the state are being expanded continuously. Selja had drawn the Centre's attention to increasing cancer cases in Sirsa and neighbouring areas, particularly those allegedly linked to polluted water and environmental factors. In response, Jadhav noted that scientific studies have identified excessive levels of elements such as lead, copper and aluminium, along with water pollution, as potentially harmful to human health.

The minister further said that the Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Boards regularly monitor water quality. According to analyses conducted in 2023, water quality at several monitored locations in Haryana did not meet prescribed standards, following which corrective measures were initiated. He added that multiple projects related to pollution control and sewage treatment are underway in Haryana, with sewage treatment capacity being enhanced through the installation of additional treatment plants.

Kumari Selja said the issue of cancer and contaminated water is not merely a health concern but a matter affecting the lives and future of lakhs of people. She urged the Centre and the state government to formulate a coordinated action plan to provide advanced healthcare facilities, modern diagnostic centres and safe drinking water in cancer-affected regions, including Sirsa.

Photo:-Kumari Selja.