

: -The Cancer Drug Price Hike Will Burden Patients Further: Kumari Selja

: -Kumari Selja Urges Centre to Roll Back Increase in Cancer Medicine Prices.

: -The Cancer-Affected Regions Need Affordable Treatment and Special Support: -Kumari Selja

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The Sirsa MP, Former Union Minister and Congress general secretary Kumari Selja has expressed concern over the recent increase in the prices of cancer and other life-saving medicines, saying the move will place an additional financial burden on families already struggling with rising healthcare costs and inflation.

Kumari Selja said the Ghaggar belt of Haryana, including large parts of her parliamentary constituency in Sirsa, has long faced a high incidence of cancer cases. Many families in the region already spend significant amounts on diagnosis, treatment and medicines, and any

increase in the cost of essential drugs would further aggravate their difficulties.

She said while governments often highlight efforts to expand cancer care facilities, the ground reality remains challenging for many patients. In several areas, healthcare infrastructure is limited to diagnostic services or sample collection centres, while advanced treatment facilities such as chemotherapy, radiotherapy and specialist oncology care remain concentrated in a few urban centres. “As a result, patients are forced to travel to larger cities for treatment, increasing both their financial burden and emotional stress,” Kumari Selja said. The Congress leader argued that ensuring affordable and accessible healthcare is a fundamental responsibility of any government, particularly for patients battling serious illnesses such as cancer.

She urged the Centre to review the recent price increase and take effective measures to keep essential medicines within the reach of ordinary citizens. Kumari Selja also called for a dedicated healthcare policy for cancer-affected regions, expansion of modern cancer

treatment facilities at the district level and special assistance programmes to provide affordable medicines to economically weaker and middle-income families. Kumari Selja said that the Healthcare is not a privilege but a basic right of every citizen. Government policies must reflect this principle and ensure that no patient is denied treatment because of rising costs.

Photo:-Kumari Selja.