

Karnataka Makes Cancer Notifiable



BENGALURU July 27; To facilitate better planning of treatment, prevention policies and research on cancer, Karnataka has made cancer a notifiable disease. By this notification, Karnataka become the third state in the country to have notified cancer.

Punjab and West Bengal are the other two states to have done so.

This means that it has now become binding on all doctors across the state to report to the Karnataka Cancer Control Committee in case they come across a patient suffering from the disease. This will help in getting a clear picture of the quantum of the problem, said Health Minister U.T. Khader here on Monday. The government has laid an elaborate plan to implement this notification, he added.

One in 12 vulnerable

Making an announcement in this regard, Mr. Khader said the national cancer registry programme estimates that one in 12 people in Karnataka may be vulnerable to develop cancer and has become a major concern in the society, The Hindu reported.

With government notifying cancer, all the hospitals across the state, both government and private will have to mandatorily report any case of cancer that they come across within a period not exceeding one week from the date of diagnosis.

This notification is applicable to all industries, railways, civil, army and other central state government medical agencies, any hospital other hospital, medical institutions other than state-run medical institutions, including Ayurvedic and Unani.

Government would constitute Karnataka Cancer Control Committee that would oversee the implementation of the notification effectively and Additional DC, DHO, Family Welfare Officer are responsible to make medical institutions to abide by this notification.

In the event of doctor or the medical institution fails to comply with the rules, he would be liable for the punitive action as decided by the committee.

An exclusive software to monitor Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA) implementation was launched. The Home Department, with the help of National Informatics Centre (NIC) Karnataka State unit, has developed this state of art software to monitor COTPA implementation by various departments through the state.

Cancer Cases In State		
50,000 No. of new reported cases of cancer in a year	1,37,889 Total number of cancer cases	40 to 50 % Contribution of tobacco to cancer
Karnataka Cancer Control Committee to oversee the process of notifying Cancer		
 <p>“The national cancer registry programme estimates that one in 12 people in Karnataka may be vulnerable to develop cancer and has become a major concern in the society. To understand the pattern of cancer in grassroot level in districts and villages, cancer has now been made a notifiable disease.”</p>		
-U.T. Khader, Health Minister		

‘Doctors must have IQ+EQ+SQ’

Health Minister U.T. Khader has found a new “formula” to find doctors with social commitment. A doctor, he argued, should have “IQ+EQ+SQ” — that is intelligence, emotional and spiritual quotients.

He said anybody with some amount of intelligence quotient could become a doctor, engineer, bureaucrat and corporate executive by passing qualifying examination. But those who have emotional and spiritual quotients alone could serve society. He admitted that attempts by the successive governments to create confidence about government hospitals have not succeeded. The challenge before the State medical fraternity was to make people enter government hospitals by instilling confidence that patients are in safe hands, he said.