

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6686
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2000
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
RATTAN LAL KATARIA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the factors responsible for communicable diseases;
- (b) whether control of communicable diseases is becoming more difficult with the emergence of drug resistants and the development of insecticide resistant vectors; and
- (c) if so, the steps propose to be taken to control the communicable diseases?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) Communicable Disease is an illness due to a specific infectious agent or its toxic products capable of being directly or indirectly transmitted from man to man, animal to man or from the environment (through air, dust, soil, water, food etc.) to man or animal. The factors responsible for Communicable Disease are presence of specific infectious agent or its toxic products in a man, animal or environment and favourable environmental conditions for transmission of disease, besides presence of susceptible host (person vulnerable for catching the specific disease).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government has launched various National Programmes to control Communicable Diseases like National Anti Malaria Programme, National AIDS Control Programme, National Leprosy Eradication Programme, National TB Control Programme etc Under these programmes steps are taken inter-alia for health promotion, specific protection, early diagnosis, prompt treatment, disability limitation of the affected persons. Government has also launched a National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases (NSPCD) as a pilot project in 45 districts. The main objective of NSPCD is strengthening of disease surveillance for forecasting and early detection of outbreaks and rapid response there to for prevention and control of communicable disease outbreaks. Under the programme it is envisaged to have networking between the Regional laboratories, State Governments, some Indian Council of Medical Research institutions and National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi. This programme is required to keep an eye on antimicrobial and vector resistant problem. Based on the outcome of studies conducted a feedback will be provided to respective health authorities regarding alternative antibiotics and insecticides.