

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2290
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2007
REVISED INTERNATIONAL HEALTH REGULATIONS
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

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

- (a) whether India is a signatory to the revised International Health Regulations 2005 as reported in the 'Hindu' dated June 15, 2007;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether as per the revised International Health Regulations 2005, all member States will have to report to the World Health Organisation within 24 hours in the event of outbreak of any disease or public health emergency of international concern;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the World Health Organisation has provided any financial assistance to the affected member States to detect, diagnose and take appropriate control and preventive measures; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

- (a) Yes sir.
- (b) The International Health Regulation (IHR) 2005 are an international legal instrument which is legally binding on all WHO Member States. The purpose and scope of the IHR (2005) are to prevent, protect against, control and provide a public health response to the international spread of disease in ways that are commensurate with and restricted to public health risks, and which avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade.
- (c) yes sir.
- (d) Each Member State shall assess events occurring within its territory and within 24 hours of assessment, each member state shall notify WHO of all events which may constitute a public health emergency of international concern within its territory as well as any health measures implemented in response to those events.
- (e) & (f) World Health Organisation has been providing technical assistance to the member States in the form of sensitization and training workshops, strengthening of disease surveillance and laboratories, support to revision of rules / acts and other activities necessary for the country to be IHR compliant.