

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2807

ANSWERED ON:17.12.2008

MALARIA TREATMENT POLICY

Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal;Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

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

- (a) whether according to WHO, India has adopted wrong treatment of malaria policy in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union government thereto;
- (c) the corrective measures taken by the Union Government in view of the above revelation; and
- (d) the details of strategy adopted by the Union Government to check the spread of malaria in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c): No, Sir. National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP), Government of India is using the WHO recommended malaria treatment policy for treatment of both P. vivax and P. falciparum.

Under the National Drug Policy on Malaria, treatment of P. vivax cases is with chloroquine 25 mg/kg body weight divided over three days along with Primaquine in dose of 0.25 mg/Kg. bw daily for 14 days.

Chloroquine @ 25 mg/kg body weight divided over three days along with Primaquine single dose of 0.75 mg/kg bw on day 1 are to be given for pf cases.

In chloroquine resistant areas Artesunate Combination Therapy (ACT) i.e. artesunate plus sulfa pyrimethamine is to be given to treat the confirm Pf cases. At present such regimen is being used in 117 most Pf endemic districts and another 253 Public Health Centres (PHCs) having chloroquine resistance and surrounding cluster of block in the country.

(d) For effective control of malaria, under NVBDCP, the revised malaria control strategy includes, inter alia, the following:

Use of Rapid Diagnostic Kits for the Pf case diagnosis in the remote and inaccessible areas having no microscopy centre.

Use of ACT for treating confirmed Pf cases in all high Pf predominant areas.

Use of impregnated bed nets for Vector control in high transmission areas with operational difficulties in carrying out Indoor Residual Spray.