

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2594
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2010
VECTOR BORNE DISEASES IN NORTH EAST STATES
Meinya Dr. Thokchom

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

- (a) whether there is a wide spread prevalence of malaria and other vector borne diseases in the North-East States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government for the prevention of these diseases;
- (c) whether the Government proposes any special drive to eradicate malaria and other vector-borne diseases in the North-East States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRVEDI)

(a)&(b) Malaria is a major public health problem in all the North-Eastern States. Two other vector-borne diseases viz. Acute Encephalitis Syndrome/ Japanese Encephalitis and Dengue have also been reported from some of the North-Eastern States.

The number of cases of Malaria, Acute Encephalitis Syndrome/ Japanese Encephalitis and Dengue reported during the last three years in North-Eastern States are given in Annexure.

Government of India through its National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) has developed a strategy for prevention and control of vector-borne diseases, which advocates for integrated vector control, early case detection and complete treatment, and behaviour change communication. Government of India provides technical support and also supplements the States by providing funds and commodities as per their annual requirements approved under National Rural Health Mission for carrying out the above stated activities. However, the programme is primarily being implemented through the State Governments.

As there is no specific treatment available for Acute Encephalitis Syndrome/ Japanese Encephalitis and Dengue, the strategy mainly consists of early diagnosis and case management. In addition, for prevention and control of Japanese Encephalitis, vaccination is also undertaken.

(c)&(d) For effective control of malaria, North-Eastern States have been given additional inputs under the Global Fund supported Intensified Malaria Control Project (IMCP) in the form of human resources and commodities like Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs), Artesunate Combination Therapy (ACT), Arteether injections, Insecticide Treated Nets (ITNS)/ Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) and Synthetic Pyrethroid liquid. The project also provides financial support for training, monitoring, mobility and IEC/BCC.