

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2671

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2010

CASES OF LEPROSY

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Gutha Shri Sukender Reddy;Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Sule Supriya ;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

- (a) whether as per the report of World Health Organisation (WHO), India continues to record highest number of leprosy cases in the world;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of such cases reported in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the funds allocated by the Union Government for the eradication of leprosy have been fully utilised by the State Governments;
- (e) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether the Government has set up any target for the elimination of leprosy from the country; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the further steps proposed to be taken to eliminate the disease from the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b):Yes. As per the latest report of WHO, in the year 2008, out of total 2,49,007 new cases recorded globally, 1,34,184 were from India. Thus India accounted for almost 54% of global new cases in 2008. Being a populous country, India has been reporting the highest number of leprosy cases. However, the number of new cases reported by India shows a declining trend after introduction of Multi-Drug Therapy (MDT). The total number of cases has reduced from 4.82 lakhs in 1983-84 to 1.34 lakhs in 2008-09.

(c) The number of new leprosy cases reported in the country during last 3 years & current year is given below:-

| Year | No. of new leprosy cases |
|------|--------------------------|
|------|--------------------------|

| | |
|---------|----------|
| 2006-07 | 1,39,252 |
|---------|----------|

| | |
|---------|----------|
| 2007-08 | 1,37,685 |
|---------|----------|

| | |
|---------|----------|
| 2008-09 | 1,34,184 |
|---------|----------|

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| 2009-10 | 1,04,503 |
| (upto Dec. 2009) | |

The state-wise details are enclosed at Annexure-I.

(d): Funds released to state governments under National Leprosy Eradication Programme are being mostly utilized by the States/UTs.

(e): Funds allocated & Expenditure reported by the States/UTs in last three years and current year are as follows-

(Rs in crores)

| Year | Allocation | Expenditure |
|------|------------|-------------|
|------|------------|-------------|

| | | |
|---------|-------|-------|
| 2006-07 | 37.25 | 32.57 |
|---------|-------|-------|

| | | |
|---------|-------|-------|
| 2007-08 | 22.65 | 22.82 |
|---------|-------|-------|

| | | |
|---------|-------|-------|
| 2008-09 | 37.32 | 29.44 |
|---------|-------|-------|

| | | |
|---------|-------|--------------------------------|
| 2009-10 | 24.81 | 16.70 (upto Dec. 09/Jan. 2010) |
|---------|-------|--------------------------------|

The state-wise details are enclosed at Annexure-II.

(f): The National Health Policy, 2002 had set the target of achieving elimination of leprosy as a public health problem (i.e Prevalence Rate of <1 case per 10,000 population) by December 2005.

(g): The goal of elimination of leprosy as set by National Health Policy has already been achieved in December 2005 at the national level.