

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4770
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2010
CASES OF PNEUMONIA
Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of children who die due to pneumonia in the world, are in India;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases reported during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken for the safety and protection of children from this and similar other diseases?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a)&(b) According to the Joint Report by UNICEF and WHO 'Pneumonia the forgotten killer' 2006, the number of pneumonia deaths for under five children in India is estimated to be 4,10,000.

No specific data on Pneumonia deaths, state wise and year wise is available.

(c) In order to address mortality due to pneumonia, Government of India is implementing the following interventions under its Child Health Programme:-

Early detection and appropriate management of Acute Respiratory Infections (including pneumonia), under which cases of Acute Respiratory Infections are detected and managed appropriately through administration of antibiotic or through referral to nearest health facility.

Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses (IMNCI), a child survival strategy, aims to train the baseline workers in the management of main causes of morbidity and mortality amongst children including pneumonia, in a holistic manner at community as well as the health facility level throughout the country.

Families are counselled on early recognition of danger signs in a sick new born and child so that families recognise the symptoms early and seek early treatment at facilities and thus avoid delay.