

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4551  
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2010  
SHORTAGE OF MANPOWER TO DEAL WITH LEPROSY  
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) whether there is huge shortage of manpower to deal with leprosy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has issued any directions to the State Governments to have dedicated leprosy officers and also to create additional post of district leprosy officers for detecting and to provide effective treatment to leprosy cases; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): No. National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) has been decentralised since 2002-03 and diagnostic & treatment services are being provided under the overall umbrella of NRHM through the General Health Care System of the States/UTs concerned.

However, State/UT Governments have been advised to either appoint full time District Leprosy Officers (DLOs) or identify an officer at the district level, who will be responsible for Leprosy Services, particularly in high endemic districts.