

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:821

ANSWERED ON:12.11.2010

DEATHS DUE TO DISEASES

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

- (a) whether India records the highest number of deaths due to various diseases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether as per a study of the World Health Organisation (WHO), poverty is a major cause of diseases;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether WHO has given any suggestions to check deaths caused by poverty; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): According to "Report on Causes of Death in India, 2001-2003" published by the Registrar General of India, non-Communicable diseases are the leading causes of deaths in the country constituting 42% of all deaths. Communicable, maternal, perinatal and nutritional conditions constitute another 38% of deaths. Injuries and ill-defined causes constitute 10% of deaths each.

Top 10 causes of deaths in India in all ages is given in table below:

Cause of Death	Percentage of all Deaths
Cardiovascular diseases	18.8
COPD, asthma, other respiratory diseases	8.7
Diarrhoeal diseases	8.1
Perinatal conditions	6.3
Respiratory infections	6.2
Tuberculosis	6.0
Malignant and other neoplasms	5.7
Senility	5.1
Unintentional injuries: other	4.9
Symptoms signs and ill-defined conditions	4.8

(c) to (f): As informed by WHO representative to India there is no such study by WHO which specifically states that poverty is a major cause of diseases.