GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:68
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2011
LABORATORIES FOR DETECTION OF DISEASES
Bajwa Shri Partap Singh;Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

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

(a) whether there is adequate infrastructure and laboratories for timely detection, diagnosis and management of outbreak of various communicable diseases in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up a number of laboratories with latest medical equipment for the early detection of communicable diseases across the country;

(d) if so, the action plan chalked out for the purpose alongwith the locations selected therefor, State/UT-wise;

(e) whether the Government has identified new testing methods for the communicable diseases including Influenza A HINI, Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) which have recently spread in the country;and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith their present status of implementation in the country?

Answer

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

(a)to(f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.68 FOR 25TH FEBRUARY, 2011

Laboratories are an integral part of health infrastructure for timely detection, diagnosis and management of communicable diseases in the country. In every district hospital and at most of the sub-district health facilities, laboratories are established for the diagnosis of major communicable diseases like Tuberculosis, Malaria, Kala-Azar and Leprosy.

Specialised laboratory facilities have been set up/strengthened for diagnosis and management of Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB), Influenza A H1N1, HIV/AIDS, Polio, Measles, Japanese Encephalitis, Dengue and Chikungunya. Further, public health laboratories have been strengthened and networked with identified medical colleges under Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP) to support timely detection of and response to disease outbreaks. The laboratory capacity in the private sector is also utilized as in the case of MDR-TB and Influenza A H1N1.

Strengthening of laboratories and modernization of lab equipment is an on-going process and newer diagnostic tools are incorporated into the laboratory network from time to time.

As regards diagnosis of Influenza A H1N1 and Cremean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF), molecular techniques of diagnosis are available in the country and are used by the identified labs.