

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:70

ANSWERED ON:25.02.2011

CRIMEAN CONGO HEMORRHAGIC FEVER

Antony Shri Anto;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether cases of Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) have been reported in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of deaths occurred due to the disease;
- (c) the facts regarding the presence of CCHF virus across the country and the medicine or vaccine available to cure the disease;
- (d) whether the Union Government has sent a team of specialists from the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) to the affected areas;
- (e) if so, the details alongwith the findings thereof; and
- (f) the action taken so far and proposed by the Government to assist the affected patients and control the outbreak of CCHF in other parts of the country?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 70 FOR 25TH FEBRUARY, 2011

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. Cases of Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) have been reported from the State of Gujarat in January, 2011. As on 20.02.2011, there have been 9 laboratory confirmed cases of which two died.

(c) There is no recent virological or serological evidence across the country for the presence of Crimean -Congo Haemorrhagic Fever virus in humans. The anti-viral drug Ribavirin is found to improve the mortality outcome in Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever. Oral Ribavirin is available in India. There is no safe vaccine available for this disease.

(d)&(e) Yes, Sir. A six member team was deputed to the State of Gujarat by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. The team visited the affected areas from 20-23 January, 2011. Based on the laboratory report of National Institute of Virology, Pune, the central team concluded that the outbreak is caused by Crimean - Congo Haemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) virus and it is present in the environment in ticks and cattle. The team recommended isolation and treatment of cases following universal precautions, management of cases as per the clinical case management protocol, surveillance in the affected area to detect new cases, surveillance among domestic animals, residual spray and other anti- tick control measures including personal protection measures.

(f) Community based Surveillance has been taken up in a zone of 5 km radius covering a population of about 19,000. Hospital based surveillance is also in place in Gujarat for early detection of suspect Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever cases. State Animal Husbandry Department has taken up surveillance among domestic animals. Laboratory tests are carried out at National Institute of Virology, Pune. Anti-tick measures have been instituted and risk communicated to the public. The identified treating hospitals follow universal precautions and use Personal Protection equipment. Availability of oral Ribavirin has been ensured. All the States/Union Territory Administrations have been alerted. Treatment protocol and public health guidelines have also been provided to all the States. Central Government monitors the situation on a regular basis.