

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:691

ANSWERED ON:25.02.2011

MOBILE WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY FOR DISEASE DETECTION

Balram Shri P.

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

(a) whether the mobile wireless technologies have the potential to help in speedy disease detection, treatment and monitoring of remote communities which can prevent communicable diseases from turning into epidemics;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has drawn any action plan to use mobile wireless technologies to detect and check the spread of the diseases, particularly in remote areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds earmarked and allocated for the purpose?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI)

(a) to (d) Department of Information Technology has informed that Mobile Wireless Technologies in combination with telemedicine facilities can help in speedy disease detection, treatment and monitoring of remote communities. It can also be used to spread awareness among remote communities on precautions to be taken which can prevent communicable diseases from turning into epidemics. They have further informed that they have funded pilot demonstrations projects for implementation of Telemedicine in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Himanchal Pradesh, Punjab, Tripura, Mizoram and Sikkim which also includes a Mobile Telemedicine project which is equipped with medical equipments for speedy disease detection and treatment.

Under Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, SMS based reporting through mobile phones was piloted in 6 districts of Andhra Pradesh for transmission of weekly surveillance data by Health workers. Besides, under OncoNet India Project, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has released Rs.1.43 Crores for setting up of Regional Cancer Centres and Peripheral Centres for facilitating telemedicine services in Cancer treatment, follow up consultation, early cancer detection and cancer awareness generation through network and Rs.3.37 crore was release for Tele-ophthalmology for the elimination of preventable blindness from the rural, tribal and unserved area in the country and recently a scheme has been approved for establishing National Medical College Network for Rs.60 Crore.