

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2194
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2011
CASES OF MENINGITIS
Adityanath Shri Yogi

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

- (a) whether cases of Meningitis and deaths therefrom have been reported from various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases reported and the number of persons died of the said disease during each of the last three years and the current year so far, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the reasons for the high prevalence of the disease in certain areas; and
- (d) the action plan drawn/proposed by the Government to tackle the rising cases of meningitis in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

- (a) & (b) Yes. The number of cases of Meningitis and deaths reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise, are given in the Annexure.
- (c) Meningococcal meningitis has an established seasonal and cyclical trend and occurs more frequently in dry and cold seasons of the year. Overcrowding and low socioeconomic status are important predisposing factors. The disease spreads from person to person through air and also by direct contact.
- (d) Central Rapid Response Teams are sent to affected areas immediately for an on the spot assessment to carry out investigations and help State Health Authorities in instituting control measures. A regular surveillance system has been put in place in the States/Districts.

Information regarding Meningococcal Meningitis and other communicable diseases is regularly published in the monthly news letter "CD Alert" of National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) for awareness of the health care workers.