

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4137

ANSWERED ON:26.08.2011

CASES OF RABIES

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

- (a) the number of deaths reported due to rabies during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether Rabies in Asia foundation has asked the Government to declare rabies as notifiable disease in view of the increasing number of rabies patients in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI) has taken cognizance thereof and submitted any report to the Government;
- (e) if so, the recommendations made in the report of CBHI; and
- (f) effective steps taken by the Government for prevention and control of rabies in the country?

Answer

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

(a) Number of cases/deaths reported due to rabies during the last three years and the current year are given below:

2008 2009 2010# 2011# (Upto May 2011)

259 263 16 47

Provisional

Source: Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI).

(b) & (c): Yes. However, rabies cases/deaths are already being reported through Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI). States/UTs governments have also been advised to regularly report rabies deaths to CBHI.

(d): No.

(e): Does not arise.

(f): A Pilot Project on prevention and control of human rabies is being implemented under Xth Five Year Plan in five cities across the country with the strategy of improving the management of animal bite cases by training of health professionals, encouraging operationalisation of ID route, enhancing awareness in general community regarding timely and appropriate post-exposure treatment and strengthening of diagnostic capabilities and surveillance.

Further, National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) has published and circulated national guidelines on rabies prophylaxis and intradermal inoculation of cell culture vaccines.