

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:883
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2011
ARTHRITIS AMONG CHILDREN
Singh Smt. Meena

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

- (a) whether there is rise in the cases of arthritis among children in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise/ UT-wise during the last three years and the current year, alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) the facilities being made available in the hospitals for treatment of arthritis at affordable cost; and
- (d) the measures taken/proposed by the Government to tackle the problem?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The exact number of cases of arthritis in India is not known as the data on arthritis is not maintained centrally. There are no time trend studies available in the Ministry to confirm or refute if there is rising trend in the prevalence or incidence of arthritis in India.

(c) & (d) Arthritis cases are diagnosed and treated in hospitals in the health care delivery system at district hospitals and Community Health Centres (CHCs) in addition to Medical Colleges and apex institutions like All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh etc. The arthritis cases are seen by Physician, orthopaedic Surgeon, and Paediatrician etc. depending on the type of arthritis. Treatment in the Government hospitals is either free or subsidised.