

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2021

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2011

POLIO CASES

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

- (a) whether India is one of the four countries in the world which are affected by polio virus;
- (b) if so, the names of the three other countries and whether polio virus has been totally eradicated from the country;
- (c) if not, the extent to which the number of polio cases have been reduced and the details of cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has intensified its efforts and fixed any target to stop circulation of residual polio virus;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the further steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to eradicate the polio cases in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a) Yes.

(b) The other 3 countries are Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria. No, the wild polio virus has not been totally eradicated from the country.

(c): There is 98% decline in polio cases over last year. The one polio case reported in 2011 from West Bengal had onset of paralysis on 13th January 2011. For the last more than 10 months, no polio case has been detected since this case. Details of State/UTs wise polio cases detected in last three years and current year are annexed.

(d) to (f): Government of India is making determined and concerted efforts to stop the circulation of the poliovirus and achieve polio eradication. The details of intensified efforts are (i) introduction of bivalent polio vaccine in January 2010 and its extensive use thereafter, (ii) two nationwide polio campaigns (National Immunization Days) followed by seven large scale polio campaigns in the high risk states in 2011 (Sub National Immunization Days), (iii) multipronged strategy to improve sanitation, hygiene, availability of clean water and control of diarrhoea in 107 high risk blocks in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, (iv) special micro plans to cover mobile and migrant populations and intensification of routine immunization, (v) Emergency preparedness and response plan to manage any wild polio virus case, (vi) Sustaining surveillance.