

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:606
ANSWERED ON:18.05.2012
SURVEILLANCE OF OUTBREAK OF DISEASES
Pal Shri Jagdambika

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

- (a) the details of outbreak of diseases reported indicating their geographical spread during the last three years alongwith the criteria adopted to declare them outbreaks across the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether there are adequate human and material resources made available in every State to investigate and respond to such outbreak of diseases;
- (c) if so, the details thereof indicating the medical infrastructure put in place for proper surveillance, containment and cure of such outbreaks;
- (d) whether the Government has proposed/ drawn any action plan to strengthen the surveillance of outbreak of diseases through the expanded network of the National Centre of Disease Control (NCDC); and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 606 FOR 18th MAY 2012

(a): State/UT-wise details of outbreaks reported and responded to during last three years are given in the Annexure. Occurrence of cases of an illness clearly in excess of normal expectancy in a community or locality is defined as an 'outbreak'.

(b) & (c): Under Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP), surveillance units have been established in all states/districts. The Central Surveillance Unit has been established at the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Delhi. Surveillance units are connected through an IT network established with the help of National Informatics Centre and Indian Space Research Organization.

Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) have been trained in all States/Districts. An RRT comprises of experts drawn from the fields of epidemiology, entomology, microbiology and other related disciplines. While RRTs are deployed for investigation and control of outbreaks, public health and medical support is provided by the respective district/State authorities for the containment of outbreaks and medical treatment wherever required.

Under IDSP, trained personnel like epidemiologists, data managers and data entry operators are provided on contract basis to support District Surveillance Units in disease outbreak investigations, and collection and compilation of data. Similarly, there is a provision of an epidemiologist, an entomologist and a microbiologist to support disease surveillance activities at the state headquarters.

(d) & (e): Surveillance of epidemic-prone diseases is an important and on-going public health activity and is one of the mandates of National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC). The up-gradation of NCDC, which will further strengthen disease surveillance and outbreak investigation, has been approved. The up-gradation involves enhancement of referral diagnostic support services for disease outbreak investigation, networking of public health laboratories, enhanced data management capacity, enhanced capacity of trained manpower in public health, round-the-clock availability of dedicated RRTs and enhanced preparedness for emerging and re-emerging infections.