

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3229
ANSWERED ON:31.08.2012
CASES OF ACUTE FLACCID PARALYSIS
Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of sharp increase in number of cases of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) in various parts of the country, particularly in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Union Government has since provided any special assistance to those States where cases of AFP has been reported;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No. There has been no increase in the number of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) cases. The apparent increase in AFP cases is due to a better reporting of AFP cases following elaborate efforts made since 2004 to increase the sensitivity of the surveillance system as per recommendation of the India Expert Advisory Group (IEAG). These efforts include broadening the case definition of AFP. Simultaneously the number of health facilities involved in reporting AFP cases has been increased to ensure that AFP cases are not missed by the system.

The details of number of AFP cases, reporting sites and polio cases reported State/UT-wise during 2010, 2011 and 2012 (upto 18th August 2012) are annexed.

(c) to (e): No. Reporting of AFP cases for investigation to rule out polio is a recommended global strategy for polio eradication to detect polio cases.