

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1369  
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2012  
WATER BORNE DISEASES  
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of high prevalence of water-borne diseases in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of related cases and deaths reported during each of the last three years and the current year, disease-wise and State/UT-wise;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to check such diseases in the country, particularly in rural areas along with the achievements made as a result thereof; and
- (d) the funds earmarked and allocated to various States to control and create awareness about water-borne diseases in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) and (b): Prevalence of water-borne diseases varies from region to region. Major water-borne diseases reported in the country are Acute Diarrhoeal Diseases, Enteric Fever (Typhoid), Viral Hepatitis and Cholera. The number of cases and deaths reported due to these diseases during the years 2009-2011 and the current year so far, State/UT-wise, are given in the Annexure I – IV.

(c) and (d): Provision of safe drinking water is the main strategy to control spread of water-borne diseases. Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation supplements efforts of the States by providing technical and financial assistance under the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) for providing safe drinking water facilities like hand-pumps, piped water supply schemes etc. in rural areas. A budgetary allocation of Rs. 10,500 crore has been made under the NRDWP during 2012-13. Upto 67% of the NRDWP funds allocated to States can be utilized for tackling water quality problems in rural areas. In addition, Government of India provides 3% NRDWP funds on 100% central assistance basis to states for water quality monitoring and surveillance, which include taking up works relating to setting up of new or up-gradation of district/sub-district water quality testing laboratories, providing chemicals and consumables to laboratories, hiring of trained manpower for the laboratories, providing field test kits/refills to Gram Panchayats etc. Under NRDWP-Support component for which 5% funds are allocated, States can inter alia, take up awareness generation campaigns on prevention of water borne diseases by keeping drinking water sources free from contamination, ensuring safe storage and handling of drinking water and maintaining safe sanitation and hygiene.