

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1500
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2009
CASES OF NEW VARIETY OF FEVER
Sethi Shri Arjun Charan;Sivasami Shri C.

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

- (a) whether the Government has received reports of new variety of fever affecting people in various parts of the country including Tiruppur in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the assistance provided in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has issued advisories against the self-treatment of fever of flu in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Pandemic Influenza A H1N1, fever caused by a new variant of the flu virus, has affected people in various parts of the Country including Tamil Nadu. State-wise details of laboratory confirmed cases and deaths are at Annexure-I.

Government of India assisted the States to contain and mitigate the Pandemic. A comprehensive plan, planning checklist, guidelines and standard operating procedures were provided to the State Governments.

Entry screening of passengers is continuing at 22 international airports and five international checkpoints. 28 Thermal Scanners have been installed at major international airports.

Community surveillance to detect clusters of influenza like illness is being done through Integrated Disease Surveillance Project. Laboratory network has been strengthened. There are forty two laboratories (24 in Govt. Sector and 18 in Private Sector) testing the clinical samples.

Government of India procured 40 million capsules and 4 lakh bottles of Oseltamivir, the drug to treat H1N1 Flu. 18 million capsules have been given to the States/UTs. Restricted sale of Oseltamivir is allowed through retail outlets having license to sell Schedule X drug. Deterrent stock of personal protective equipments and masks have also been provided to the State Governments. Three Indian manufacturers of Vaccine are being supported to manufacture H1N1 vaccine. Four million doses are being imported to vaccinate the higher risk group. Funds have been provided to the States/ UTs for training of district level rapid response teams. Indian Medical Association has been provided funds to train private practitioners in the States.

A task force in the I&B Ministry is implementing the media plan. Travel advisory, do's and don'ts and other pertinent information has been widely published to alley fear and avoid panic. All relevant information is also available on the website: <http://mohfw-h1n1.nic.in>. The Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials have been translated to 14 languages and provided to the State Governments.

(c) & (d) Government of India has issued guidelines for categorization of patients. Mild cases have been advised home care. Advisory provided to the State Government is at Annexure-II.