

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3092
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2013
ERADICATION OF LEPROSY
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

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

- (a) whether despite declaring India leprosy free in 2005, more than 50% of the global leprosy cases are being reported from the country every year;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the number of new cases detected in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the prevalence rate of leprosy cases during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes any further measures to eradicate leprosy from the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the funds allocated and spent for the purpose during the said period, State/UTwise?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): In the year 2005, the target of elimination of leprosy in the country at the national level was achieved. Elimination is defined as prevalence of leprosy of less than one case per 10,000 population. However, despite elimination, new cases of leprosy will continue to be detected every year since the incubation period for leprosy ranges from few weeks to nearly 20 years. Of the New cases of leprosy detected in the world, the cases detected in India account for more than 50%. The large population of India can be considered as one of the main reasons for this high number.

State/UT wise details of new leprosy cases and prevalence rate reported in the last three years and current year are at Annexure – I.

(d) & (e): The Government is concentrating on achieving elimination of leprosy at district level during the 12th Plan period (2012-17). The measures include improved and early detection and case management through intensified activities like active case finding, IEC/BCC in the community, capacity building of medical, para-medical and community workers and improved monitoring and supervision.

A statement showing State/UT wise funds allocated, released and expenditure (as reported by States/UTs) under National Leprosy Eradication Programme during last three years and current year is at Annexure – II.