

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5221
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2013
CASES OF LEPTOSPIROSIS INFECTION
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether new cases of leptospirosis infection and death therefrom have been reported in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating such cases and deaths reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to overcome the disease;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up research centres for prevention and control of leptospirosis and other zoonotic diseases in various States/UTs including Gujarat; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): Yes.

(b): Number of reported cases and deaths due to Leptospirosis during the years 2010-2012 are given in the annexure.

(c): A pilot project was implemented in the 11th Five Year Plan in the State of Gujarat, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Karnataka to prevent morbidity and mortality due to Leptospirosis in humans. Under this pilot project financial assistance is provided to the states for training of health personnel, strengthening of diagnostic facilities and carrying out awareness in the community.

The strategy for prevention and control of Leptospirosis consists of early diagnosis and prompt treatment, chemoprophylaxis and rodent control. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) has been disseminated to the endemic states for implementation.

Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP) is implemented in all States/UTs with the aim to detect and respond to outbreaks of epidemic prone diseases. Under IDSP, districts and States have been strengthened by providing additional manpower, training of identified Rapid Response Team (RRT) members for outbreak investigations, strengthening of laboratories for detection of epidemic prone diseases including Leptospirosis, ICT equipment for data entry, analysis and data transfer, and provision of funds for operationalization.

(d) & (e) : Regional Medical Research Center, Port Blair, under Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), is the National Leptospirosis Reference Center, which carries out surveillance for Leptospirosis in Andamans, provides referral services in diagnosis, and also conduct research and training related to Leptospirosis in the country. Due to increasing frequency of cases in other states a Leptospirosis Diagnosis and Research Center has been set up at ICMR's National Institute of Epidemiology in October 2012.