GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6115
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2013
CASES OF HYPERTENSION HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of a recent World Health Organisation (WHO) report on high prevalence of hypertension/high blood pressure among people in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of people having hypertension/high blood pressure and the reasons for the high prevalence of the disease in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the measures taken/proposed by the Government to address hypertension/ high blood pressure and associated comorbidities with other diseases; and
- (d) the other measures being taken by the Government to spread awareness in this regard, particularly consumption of alcohol and tobacco products as the contributory factor to the disease?

Answer

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

- (a): Yes. As per World Health Organisation (WHO) report, 2012, one in every three adults in India suffers from raised blood pressure.
- (b): As per the survey conducted in 7 States by the Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP) in 2007-08 on Non-Communicable Disease Risk Factors, State-wise figures (in percentage) on cases of hypertension is as under:

Andhra Pradesh 16.6 Madhya Pradesh 24.1 Maharashtra 20.1 Mizoram 19.6 Kerala 18.0 Tamil Nadu 17.8 Uttarakhand 18.8

There is a strong correlation between changing lifestyle factors including diet and physical inactivity and increase in hypertension in India.

(c) & (d): Government has launched the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) in July, 2010 during the 11th Five Year Plan. The Programme aims at reducing the burden of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) which are major factors reducing potentially productive years of human life, resulting in huge economic loss. The programme provides for opportunistic screening of persons above the age of 30 years for diabetes & hypertension in various health care facilities. The programme has been launched in 100 identified Districts in 21 States.

Government of India has enacted the Anti-tobacco Law, (The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products Act)(COTPA 2003) with a view to discourage consumption of tobacco products by imposing various regulatory measures. Further, under food safety regulations, tobacco products such as Gutkha and Pan Masala containing tobacco and Nicotine have been prohibited. Government of India has also launched the National Tobacco control Programme (NTCP) in 2007-08 which, at present, covers 42 districts in 21 States.

Awareness generation activities undertaken by the State Governments have also been supplemented by the Ministry. In addition, Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities through Prasar Bharati under the 'Swasth Bharat Programme' are also being carried out for various non-communicable diseases including Hypertension/High Blood Pressure.