

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1778

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2013

WATER BORNE DISEASES

Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Gawali Patil Smt. Bhavana Pundlikrao ;Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao;Singh Rajkumari Ratna;Singh Shri Ijyaraj ;Singla Shri Vijay Inder

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of high prevalence of various waterborne diseases due to intake of contaminated water 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, diseasewise and State/UT-wise;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed by the Government for the treatment and control of such diseases in the country along with the funds earmarked, allocated and utilised by the States/UTs for the purpose during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has proposed/launched any awareness and immunization drive against certain waterborne diseases; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Consumption of contaminated drinking water can cause diseases such as Acute Diarrhoeal Diseases, Enteric Fever (Typhoid), Viral Hepatitis, Cholera and Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES).

State/UT-wise number of cases and deaths due to Acute Diarrhoeal Diseases, Enteric Fever (Typhoid), Viral Hepatitis, Cholera and Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES), as reported by State/UT Governments, during the years 2010-2013 are given in Annexures – I to V.

(c) : Health is a state subject and the responsibility for providing healthcare facilities to patients primarily lies with the respective State Governments. However, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provides financial and technical assistance to State/UT Governments under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) for strengthening of primary and secondary health care facilities to effectively respond to health care needs including health problems arising from consumption of contaminated drinking water. The financial assistance for this purpose is provided under NRHM Flexipool as per the needs of States/UTs which are reflected in their annual Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs). State/UT-wise release and utilization of funds under NRHM Flexipool during the last three financial years are enclosed at Annexure – VI.

Further, National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Delhi, provides technical assistance to State/UT Governments on prevention and control of water-borne diseases in carrying out investigation of outbreaks of such diseases under Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP). At the national level, NCDC also coordinates laboratory support for outbreak investigations besides conducting regular training courses for development of trained manpower.

(d)& (e): Ministry of Health & Family Welfare undertakes awareness campaigns through print, audio video, exhibitions, pamphlets, booklets, etc. in respect of various diseases including water borne diseases. The Ministry also reaches out to the section of population by undertaking publicity through the media units of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, namely, Directorate of Field Publicity and Song & Drama Division.

In April 2012, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in collaboration with Doordarshan and All India Radio have started a half an hour dedicated health magazine programme "Swasth Bharat" being telecast / broadcast in regional languages for 5 days a week through 30 Regional Kendra's of Doordarshan and 29 Regional Stations of All India Radio. Through this Programme, awareness is being created regarding various Central Government schemes/ programmes and various diseases including water borne diseases.

Vaccinations under the Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) do not cover water-borne diseases.