

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1580

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013

POLIO ERADICATION

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

(a) whether the World Health Organization (WHO) has removed India from the list of polio endemic countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is also working to eliminate measles and control of Rubella and Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS) by 2020 in association with South-East Asia Region;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the total number of deaths reported due to measles during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and

(e) the funds allocated during above said period along with the steps taken by the Government to develop and sustain a sensitive and timely case based measles and Rubella/CRS surveillance system and also to strengthen the regional network of measles and Rubella laboratories?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Yes. World Health Organization (WHO) on 24th February 2012, removed India from the list of countries with active endemic wild poliovirus transmission.

(c): Yes. The Government is also working to eliminate measles and control Rubella and Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS) by 2020 in association with South-East Asia Region.

(d)&(e): As per WHO South-East Asia Region, all countries of WHO's South-East Asia Region are committed to eliminate measles and control rubella/congenital rubella syndrome (CRS) by 2020. The resolution was approved during the Sixty-sixth Regional Committee Meeting. The total number of death reported due to measles during the last three years and current year, state wise and funds allocated during the period is annexed as Annexure I and II respectively.

The AFP (Acute Flaccid Paralysis) linked laboratory supported measles /rubella outbreak surveillance started in 16 states. Eleven measles rubella laboratories have been strengthened for this purpose.