

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2744

ANSWERED ON:07.02.2014

CASES OF HEPATITIS

Dias Dr. Charles

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

- (a) whether cases of various types of Hepatitis including Hepatitis-B among the people in the country have come to the notice of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year, type and State/UT-wise;
- (c) the programmes being implemented by the Government for the control and treatment of the cases of Hepatitis and the funds spent thereunder during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has assessed the quality and availability of Hepatitis vaccines being administered under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof and the steps taken/proposed by the Government to scale up awareness and immunization programme against Hepatitis across the country?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Yes. State/UT-wise reported cases of Viral Hepatitis (all causes) during the years 2010-2013 are given in Annexure-I.
- (c): Under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP), Government of India is providing Hepatitis B vaccine and operational cost of vaccination to States/UTs for preventing Hepatitis B infection. Details of funds released to States/UTs under the strengthening of routine Immunization Programme during last three years and current year are given in Annexure -II.
- Since April 2005, Government has introduced auto-disabled (AD) syringes for all vaccinations under the UIP in all States. AD syringes are single use, self-locking syringes that cannot be used more than once. This prevents misuse and contamination/cross infection through repeated use of unsterile injection/equipment. Routine screening of blood units for Hepatitis B & C has been made mandatory for all blood banks to detect and discard contaminated blood units.
- Since the main cause of Hepatitis A & E is consumption of contaminated water, the Government of India has supported State governments/local bodies for supply of safe drinking water through National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM).
- National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, provides technical guidance to State Governments on prevention and control of water borne diseases including Hepatitis, and helps them in carrying out investigation of outbreaks of such diseases under Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP). NCDC also coordinates laboratory support for outbreak investigations and etiological diagnosis besides conducting regular training courses for development of trained manpower.
- (d) & (e): To maintain quality each batch of the licensed Hepatitis B vaccine is tested before release to the State. First in house testing is done by manufacturer and thereafter tested and cleared by Central Drug Laboratory (CDL) Kasauli, Himachal Pradesh. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare undertakes awareness campaigns through print, audio video, exhibitions, pamphlets, booklets, etc. in respect of diseases including Hepatitis.