

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:429
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2009
FILARIA CONTROL PROGRAMME
Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad

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

- (a) whether cases of filaria have been reported in the country during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to control the spread of the disease;
- (c) whether the Government has proposed/ launched any programme at national level to control the disease; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 429 FOR 18TH DECEMBER,2009

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b),(c)&(d) Filariasis cases – manifested in the form of Lymphoedema and Hydrocele – have been reported in the country and updated every year. The details of prevalent cases as reported during the last three years are given below:

Year	Lymphoedema cases (in lakh)	Hydrocele cases (in lakh)
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2006	6.82	3.60
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2007	7.56	3.85
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2008	7.40	3.65
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Since 2004, Government of India has launched a nation-wide campaign for elimination of the disease. The campaign is an integral component of the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) under the overarching umbrella of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). The main strategy for elimination of lymphatic filariasis is to prevent the transmission of the infection through annual Mass Drug Administration (MDA) of single dose of anti-filarial drugs (Diethyl carbamazine citrate (DEC) and Albendazole tablets) in the endemic population except pregnant women, children below 2 years of age and seriously ill persons. This was launched as a nation-wide annual campaign since 2004 in filaria endemic districts in 15 States and 5 Union Territories. For carrying out annual Mass Drug Administration (MDA), Government of India provides 100% assistance in cash and kind.