

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:271
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009
RISE IN COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
Dubey Shri Nishikant

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

- (a) whether the cases of communicable diseases are on the rise in the country including in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of cases of the principal communicable diseases reported during the last three years and the current year, yearwise;
- (d) whether any study has been conducted by the Government in this regard;
- (e) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (f) the funds allocated and utilised for the purpose, State-wise; and
- (g) the preventive and corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to control these diseases?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 271 FOR 22ND JULY, 2009

The reports on communicable diseases like Tuberculosis, Leprosy, HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Dengue, Chikungunya, Japanese Encephalitis, Acute Diarrhoeal diseases, Leptospirosis, etc show a varied pattern of increase or decrease of detected/reported cases during the last three years, which may be seen in Annexure-1. Therefore, no general conclusion can be drawn regarding the rise in cases of communicable diseases in the country. Increase in cases detected in some diseases is mainly due to better outreach of health facilities in rural areas in the country. Vector borne diseases namely Malaria, Dengue, Chikungunya, Japanese Encephalitis, Kala-azar and Filaria are reported from specific areas in the country which are endemic for them. Most of the communicable diseases are seasonal and their vectors (e.g. mosquitoes) and pathogens (e.g. Malaria parasite) are affected by environmental factors.

The details of studies undertaken for various communicable diseases are given in Annexure-2.

The funds allocated and utilized under Revised National Tuberculosis Programme, National Leprosy Eradication Programme and National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme, National AIDS Control Programme, State-wise for last three years are given at Annexures-3, 4, 5 and 6 respectively.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is committed to control and ensure treatment facilities for various communicable diseases. Various preventive and corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government are:

National Rural Health Mission has been launched to provide quality health services in rural areas. National Rural Health Mission has helped in improving the health infrastructure in the rural areas consequently improving the health care delivery system and reducing the risk of all the diseases including communicable diseases.

Major communicable disease control programmes initiated by the Government have been integrated with the National Rural Health Mission at the national, state and district levels.

For the control of HIV/AIDS, there is a separate Department of AIDS Control which is implementing National AIDS Control Programme-III throughout the country.

For vector borne diseases, National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme is being implemented.

For controlling Tuberculosis (TB), a national programme called Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) exists.

For controlling diarrhoeal diseases and cholera, the provision of safe drinking water and general hygiene is the key for prevention

and no national programme exists. Respective State Governments work towards spreading awareness for maintaining general hygiene & cleanliness and providing safe drinking water to general population.

For prevention and control of Leptospirosis, a pilot project has been started.

The details of the national programmes covering principal communicable diseases are given in Annexure-7.

At the national level, National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) coordinates laboratory support for outbreak investigations and etiological diagnosis. It also conducts regular training courses for development of trained manpower. It has also helped develop guidelines for prevention and control of vector borne and infectious diseases for guidance of all concerned.