

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4020

ANSWERED ON:20.03.2015

DRUG RESISTANT MALARIA

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

- (a) whether cases of drug-resistant malaria have been reported from various parts of the country, particularly the areas bordering southeast Asian countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has received any report in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the corrective measures being taken by the Government, to curb the cases of drug-resistant malaria in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) to (d): The cases of drug-resistant malaria are monitored through study settings in different parts of the country conducted by National Institute of Malaria Research (NIMR), an institution of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). Through this study, treatment failure cases were observed in *P. falciparum* malaria against the anti-malarial drug Artesunate Sulphadoxine-Pyremethamine (a combination drug ACT: AS+SP) during 2012-13 in North Eastern States bordering with other countries. Accordingly, ACT: AS+SP was changed to Artemether-Lumefantrine (AL) as the first line of antimalarial for treatment of *falciparum* malaria for the North East States.

The ACT: AS+SP is still effective against *Pf* cases in rest of the country and Chloroquine is effective against *P.vivax* cases.