

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:267

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2015

Cases of Influenza-A H1N1

Rajoria Dr. Manoj;Ranjan (Pappu Yadav) Shri Rajesh

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

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

- (a) whether new cases of Influenza-A H1N1 (Swine Flu) and related deaths have recently been reported from various parts of the country and if so, the details thereof during the current year in comparison to the last year, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the financial and technical assistance including drugs/vaccines provided by the Government to the States/UTs for diagnosis, detection and treatment of Influenza-A H1N1 and dissemination of information in this regard, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether drugs and vaccines for prevention and cure of the Swine Flu patients are adequately available in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the measures being taken by the Government to establish new laboratories and strengthen the existing ones and also to curb the private hospitals/laboratories charging high amount for screening and test of Influenza-A H1N1?

Answer

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.267 FOR 7TH AUGUST, 2015

- (a) In the period 1st June 2015 to 31st July, 2015, the details of cases of Influenza A H1N1 and related deaths reported from various parts of the country are given at Annexure along with the details for same period in 2014. All the reported deaths may not have occurred only due to Influenza A H1N1 infection but may also be due to co-morbid conditions and due to patients being immuno-compromised.
- (b) In addition to guidelines for vaccination of Health-care-workers, advisories have been issued to the States for risk categorization, clinical management and ventilator management. These have been also posted on the Ministry's website. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare deputed Central Teams earlier this year to Rajasthan, Gujarat, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra for providing technical guidance and assistance to the State Governments. A team of physicians was also deputed to Rajasthan for assisting the State in ventilator management. The States were supplied with Oseltamivir Capsules, N 95 masks, Personal Protective Equipment, VTM kits and diagnostic reagents for testing samples. IEC activities were also undertaken for dissemination of information.
- (c) &(d) Recent cases are being reported from few States who have informed that they have sufficient stock of drug Oseltamivir. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has also kept an emergency stock of Oseltamivir. Regarding vaccine, as per the guidelines, vaccination is recommended only for health-care workers involved with Influenza cases and high risk groups. Procurement of vaccine is being done directly by the States.
- (e) At present, the laboratory network of Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme and Indian Council of Medical Research comprising 21 laboratories across different parts of India is providing free testing facilities for Influenza A H1N1. The Government has also approved a scheme of Department of Health Research for "Establishment of a network of Laboratories for Managing Epidemics and Natural Calamities". Expenditure on the establishment of labs at the State Level and at the Medical Colleges would be shared between the Central Government and the State Governments in the Ratio of 75:25 (90:10 in respect of North Eastern, Hilly States including Sikkim and Jammu & Kashmir). The Viral Research & Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDLs) would deal with diagnosis and outbreak investigation of common viruses including Influenza A H1N1. In view of earlier media reports regarding overcharging by certain private laboratories, Director General of Health Services had advised the concerned State Government to ensure that the private laboratories do not charge high rates. In last two months, no report of overcharging has been received.