

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:652

ANSWERED ON:26.02.2016

Deworming Programme

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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 the country has reportedly highest number of soil transmitted parasite infectional worms in the world;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of children in the age group of 1-14 years who are at risk of worm infection;
- (c) the targets fixed and achieved under the National Deworming Programme during the last year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has decided to expand the aforementioned programme across the length and breadth of the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the estimated number of children to be benefited across the country thereunder, State/UT-wise; and
- (f) whether the Government is seeking help from international organizations to beef up the programme, if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Yes. As per World Health Organization (WHO) database (2012), it is estimated that 241 million children (68%) between the ages of 1 – 14 years in India are at risk of parasitic intestinal worms.

(c): In 2015, the Government of India launched National Deworming Day in 11 States/UT with a target of 10.31 crore children between ages of 1 – 19 years, against which a total of 8.98 crore children received deworming tablet (Albendazole), during the National Deworming Day 2015 with 85 percent coverage. State/UT wise details are placed at annexure I.

(d) & (e): In 2016, the Government of India has launched National Deworming Day which has been observed on 10th February 2016 across the States/UTs, with the target of covering approximately 27 crore children. State/UT wise details are placed at annexure II.

(f): Yes. The Government of India is seeking technical assistance from WHO and an international organisation, namely, "Evidence Action, Deworm the World Initiative" for the effective implementation of National Deworming Day.