

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:263

ANSWERED ON:25.07.2014

TREATMENT OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Kachhadia Shri Naranbhai;Rathwa Shri Ramsinh Patalyabhai

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

- (a) The major research projects undertaken by the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) relating to prevailing as well as emerging communicable diseases along with the outcome thereof;
- (b) Whether the Government proposes to strengthen the existing branches and set up new branches of NCDC in various States/UTs during the 12th Five Year Plan and if so, the details thereof along with the financial and operational modalities worked out for the purpose, location and States/UT-wise;
- (c) Whether the Government has received any proposal from the States/UTs for the purpose and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon; and
- (d) The measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for proper surveillance and treatment of communicable diseases and scale up diagnostic facilities for the purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.263 FOR 25TH JULY, 2014

- (a): The major Operational Research Projects undertaken by National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) since 2006 are placed at Annexure.
- (b): Yes. The 12th Five Year Plan provides for strengthening of existing eight branches and establishment of twenty seven new branches of NCDC in various States and UTs. The allocated amount is Rs.400.00 Crore. The intention is to cover the entire country.
- (c): From 2012 onwards (during the 12th Five Year Plan), no proposal has been received from State/ UTs for opening of branch of NCDC.
- (d): The Government of India is implementing following major national programmes for communicable diseases:

- (i) National AIDS Control Programme (NACP)
- (ii) National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP)
- (iii) National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP)
- (iv) Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP)

Under NACP, free HIV testing and counseling services are being provided through 15,606 Integrated Counseling and Testing Centres (ICTCs) across India. The persons found HIV positive at ICTCs are referred to the Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART) Centres where free check up and treatment facilities are provided. Presently there are 425 ART Centres across India.

Government of India initiated Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) in 2004 with the aim to detect and respond to disease outbreaks due to epidemic prone diseases at the earliest. Under IDSP, the districts and States have been strengthened by Government of India by providing additional contractual manpower, training of manpower for disease surveillance and outbreak investigations, strengthening of Public Health Laboratories for detection of epidemic prone diseases, ICT equipment for data entry, analysis and data transfer, and provision of funds for operationalization.

Department of Health Research have taken many new initiatives to strengthen research in the area of communicable Diseases for the purpose of surveillance, treatment and to scale up diagnostic facilities which includes a new scheme for establishment of Network of Viral Research and Diagnostics Laboratories (VDL) for Managing Epidemics and Natural Calamities. Under this scheme, 160 laboratories (10 Regional, 30 State level and 120 Medical college level labs) are sanctioned. The purpose is to build capacity for handling outbreaks by establishing diagnostic facilities and to carry research of all emerging-re-emerging and common viral diseases as well as other infectious diseases like tuberculosis. One BSL IV, Asia's first laboratory for Human Medicine has been established at NIV, Pune, to deal with most dangerous lethal infections like hemorrhagic fevers, agents of bioterrorism etc. This was

inaugurated on 28th December 2012.

NLEP, NVBDCP and RNTCP are being implemented under National Health Mission (NHM) and provide for prevention, early detection, diagnosis and treatment.