GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2190
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01ST JANUARY, 2019

WELFARE OF LEPROSY PATIENTS

2190. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

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

(a) the State-wise details of the number of persons affected with Leprosy in the country;

(b) the measures being taken under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme to eradicate Leprosy and the achievements made thus far; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to sensitize the citizens about Leprosy and reduce the stigma surrounding the disease?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRi ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a): The State-wise details of number of persons affected with Leprosy as on record till 31st March, 2018 is annexed.

(b): The measures being taken under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) are as under:-

I. Early case detection: Three pronged strategy i.e., i) Leprosy Case Detection Campaign (LCDC) (specific for high endemic districts), ii) Focused Leprosy Campaign (for hot spots i.e. rural and urban areas where Grade II Disability (G2D) is detected), iii) Special plan for case detection in hard to reach areas.

II. Enhanced early case reporting: i) Sparsh Leprosy Awareness Campaign (SLAC) ii) Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) based Surveillance for Leprosy Suspects (ABSULS)

III. Prevention of leprosy / Interrupt transmission: Post Exposure Prophylaxis administration to contacts of new cases detected in LCDC districts.

IV. Overall strengthening of the programme: i) Nikushth an online reporting system with Patient tracking mechanism, ii) Grade II disability case investigation.
In addition to the above measures several activities are being implemented in the programme which are as under:

- Extended ASHA scheme wherein incentives are being provided to ASHA as well as any community member after confirmation of a leprosy case.

- Multi Drug Therapy (MDT) is provided to the leprosy patients free of cost.

- Fund are provided for procurement of material and supplies including supportive drugs.

Further various services are provided under the programme for Disability Prevention Medical Rehabilitation (DPMR) activities which cover reaction management, self-care practices, provision of Micro Cellular Rubber (MCR) footwear, Aids & Appliances, referral services for management of cases and reconstructive surgery at District Hospitals and Medical Colleges/Central leprosy/Non Government Organisation (NGO) Institutions.

(c): The Programme has a provision for regular Information Education Communication (IEC) at National level and at State level and also in campaign mode in the form of Sparsh Leprosy Awareness Campaign on Anti Leprosy Day i.e. 30th January every year.
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