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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1083 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2025

ESTABLISHMENT OF INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL DISEASES IN KONKAN REGION

1083 # SHRI DHAIRYASHIL MOHAN PATIL

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to establish an Institute of Tropical Diseases in the Konkan region of Maharashtra in view of the region's high incidence of tropical diseases such as malaria, dengue, leprosy, and tuberculosis and its monsoon climate;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the mechanisms in place in the absence of such an institute, to undertake dedicated studies on epidemiology and transmission patterns in the region?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)

- (a) & (b): There is no such proposal to establish an Institute of Tropical Diseases in the Konkan region of Maharashtra in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW). The Department of Health & Family Welfare, provides technical and financial support to the States/UTs under National Health Mission (NHM) to address burden of tropical disease.
- (c): Tropical diseases and vector-borne illnesses like Malaria, Dengue, Chikungunya, Lymphatic Filariasis, Leprosy, Visceral Leishmaniasis (Kala-azar), Rabies, and Snakebite are prevalent in the country including the Konkan area of Maharashtra. To address this, various national and regional agencies are working on disease-specific prevention, control, and research initiatives. The National Center for Vector Borne Diseases Control (NCVBDC) plays a significant role in the prevention and control of six key vector-borne diseases: Malaria, Japanese Encephalitis, Dengue, Chikungunya, Kala-azar, and Lymphatic Filariasis.

Additionally, the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), MoHFW facilitates the implementation of crucial national health programs, such as the National Rabies Control Program, the Program for Prevention and Control of Leptospirosis, the National Program for Prevention and Control of Snakebite Envenoming, and the National One Health Program for the Prevention and Control of Zoonoses.

National Institute of Malaria Research (NIMR)-Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), focuses on research aimed at finding solutions for the control and prevention of diseases like Malaria and other vector-borne illnesses.

National Institute of Epidemiology (ICMR-NIE) Chennai in collaboration with other institutions and organizations, develop and support the field of epidemiology and public health through training and research.
