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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2664 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH AUGUST, 2025

WINDING UP OF NATIONAL POLIO SURVEILLANCE PROJECT

2664. SHRI A. D. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether Government is considering winding up the National Polio Surveillance Project (NPSP);
- (b) if so, the reasons for the proposed closure despite experts opposition;
- (c) whether experts have warned that the dismantling of NPSP could weaken surveillance for polio and other communicable diseases; and
- (d)the steps being taken by Government to ensure that disease surveillance and immunization tracking systems remain robust post-NPSP?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (d) - Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control is the nodal agency for disease surveillance in the country. The disease surveillance systems are established in States / UTs for various vaccine preventable and non-vaccine preventable diseases, supported by digital monitoring mechanism and laboratory network which are also accredited by WHO. The disease surveillance guidelines and standard operating procedures (SOPs) are already in place for effective management of surveillance activities by the States / UTs.

The self-reliant domestic disease surveillance system of various States / UTs are commensurate with the related activities of World Health Organization — National Public Health Support Network (WHO-NPSN). The updation of technical knowledge, through continuous academic and technical training activities, as also supported by WHO-NPSN, strengthens the domestic disease surveillance capacities of States / UTs.
