

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2685
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH AUGUST, 2025**

NATIONAL POLIO SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

2685. SMT. SANGEETA YADAV:

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

- (a) whether Government has decided to withdraw from or scale down the National Polio Surveillance Program (NPSP);
- (b) if so, the reasons and rationale behind this decision, along with the timeline of withdrawal;
- (c) whether any risk assessment has been conducted to evaluate the implications of such a move on India's polio-free status;
- (d) the alternative mechanisms, if any, being proposed to ensure continued surveillance and immunisation in the absence of the NPSP; and
- (e) whether Government has consulted international agencies such as the WHO before arriving at this decision, and if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (e) - 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.

The timeline of withdrawal of WHO-NPSN is by the end of March 2027.
