

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4156
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH AUGUST, 2017**

INTENSIFIED DIARRHOEA CONTROL FORTNIGHT (IDCF)

**4156. SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM:
DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:
SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched the Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF) to check the number of child deaths due to diarrhoea;
- (b) if so, the details and objectives thereof;
- (c) the challenges faced by the Government in the implementation of the scheme;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to overcome the difficulties in the implementation of the scheme;
- (e) whether there is any improvement in the related incidence after the implementation of the scheme, if so, the State/UT-wise details of cases reported; and
- (f) whether the Government is undertaking any other policies for restrict child deaths due to diarrhoea and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)**

(a) & (b) Yes. Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF) is being organized in the month of July and August since 2014. It includes massive awareness generation on use of ORS and zinc during diarrhoea, bringing together multiple departments to generate awareness and also outreach to under-five children with ORS packets to be used when diarrhoea begins. During the last three IDCFs in 2014, 2015 and 2016 around 1.9 crore, 6.3 crore and 6.5 crore under-5 children are covered respectively.

The main objectives are to improve usage of ORS and Zinc for childhood diarrhoea and to complement awareness activities for prevention and management of diarrhoea in under-Five children.

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(c) & (d):

- There were challenges in the form of procurement of ORS packets and Zinc tablets in some of the States.
- Funds are released to the States for timely procurement of ORS and Zinc.
- Intensive reviews and video conferences are held with all States/UTs before and during the implementation of IDCF.

(e): IDCF is being implemented with an aim of zero diarrhoeal deaths in under-five children. However, number of cases and deaths due to diarrhoea in under-five children are not available at the national level.

(f): The following steps are taken by the Government other than IDCF:

- Oral Rehydration Salt (ORS) packets and zinc tablets are made available free of cost at public health facilities for diarrhoea cases.
- Promotion of early and exclusive breastfeeding along with appropriate complementary feeding is being undertaken through frontline health workers namely ASHA and ANM at community and facility level for prevention of diarrhoea.
- Surveillance activities to detect outbreaks of Diarrhoea through Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) are also carried out.
- Rotavirus vaccine has been introduced in 2016 and is currently implemented in nine states (Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Odisha, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh) to reduce rotavirus diarrhoea.
- Other schemes/programmes which have the potential of diarrhoea control include the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Mid-Day Meal Scheme implemented by other Ministries.

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