

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 12
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15TH DECEMBER, 2017
RASHTRIYA KRIMI MUKTI KARYAKRAM**

†*12. SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:

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

- (a) whether the children in the age group of 1-14 years are at risk of soil transmitted helminth infections;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has introduced Rashtriya Krimi Mukti Karyakram (RKMK) in 277 districts of 11 States in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government has taken any national initiative to amend/reform RKMK so as to include 536 districts under the said programme and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 12* FOR 15TH DECEMBER, 2017**

As per World Health Organization (WHO), 43% of the global population and 64% (22 crore) of the Indian population less than 14 years are at the risk of STH infection

These infections cause morbidity by adversely affecting nutritional status and may cause complications that require surgical intervention

Under National Health Mission (NHM), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India had launched National Deworming Day (NDD) on 10th February 2015, covering 8.98 crore children across 11 States/UTs in 272 districts of the country. In 2016, it was decided to conduct an annual round across the country on 10th February and an additional round on 10th August in those States/UTs where worm load is high. Simultaneously, MoHFW appointed National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) to conduct nationwide study to assess the burden of soil transmitted helminthes infection. As per the NCDC survey, all the States/UTs except Rajasthan and Madhya Pradash reported more than 20% soil transmitted helminth infection. Accordingly, as per WHO reccommendation and after consultation with the technical expert group of the MoHFW, it has been decided to conduct the NDD bi-annually in all the States/UTs, except Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, where it is to be conducted annually.

During NDD, single dose of albendazole is administered to children from 1-19 years of age. The intervention is being implemented through the platforms of schools and anganwadi centres with support of Department of School Education and Literacy under Ministry of Human Resource and Development, and the Ministry of Women and Child Development respectively to ensure maximum coverage.
