

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1320
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND DECEMBER, 2017**

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

1320. SHRI J.J.T. NATTERJEE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of various emerging infectious diseases in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to combat the spread of infectious diseases;
- (c) the details of States that are prone to such disease attacks; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government in consultation with World Health Organisation in managing such diseases?

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

(a) & (b): Yes. Government has taken a note of various emerging infectious diseases in the country like Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever, Kyasanur Forest Disease, Chandipura Virus, Scrub Typhus, Seasonal Influenza (H1N1), Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES), Zika virus disease etc.

Government of India has established Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) with the aim to detect and respond to disease outbreaks due to epidemic prone diseases at the earliest. Under IDSP, surveillance units have been established in all the districts and States and they have been strengthened by providing additional manpower, training of identified Rapid Response team members for outbreak investigations, strengthening of laboratories for detection of epidemic prone diseases, ICT equipment for data entry, analysis and data transfer, and provision of funds for operationalization.

Further, under IDSP, a total of 137 laboratories at district level have been strengthened for testing of samples for epidemic prone diseases as on 30th November, 2017. To strengthen the districts, 108 Medical Colleges have been strengthened and districts have been linked to these Medical Colleges for testing of samples during disease outbreaks. Laboratories are also being strengthened under ICMR.

(c): Diseases know no boundaries and all States wherever the epidemiology is conducive for these emerging diseases are prone to emerging disease.

(d): Government of India was assisted by WHO in undertaking Joint Monitoring Mission (26th November to 8th December 2015) and the reprioritization of diseases under surveillance (6th -7th December 2016) to further strengthen disease surveillance system under IDSP.

Joint Monitoring Group (JMG) under DGHS monitors such emerging disease conditions from time to time and WHO is part of JMG.

Emerging disease threats are monitored at the level of Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Secretary (Health) and other Senior officers where WHO is invited to provide technical inputs.