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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6630
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH APRIL, 2018

ERADICATION OF POLIO

6630. SHRI KUNDARIYA MOHAN BHAI KALYANJI BHAI:

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

(a) whether the Government has completely eliminated polio virus from the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government proposes to continue constant vigil to eradicate polio and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) & (b):   Yes, India along with ten other countries of World Health Organization (WHO) South East Asia Region has been certified Polio free by the Regional Polio Certification Commission on the 27th March 2014.

(c):   To maintain the polio-free status of country, government is taking following measures:

- Population immunity against polio is being maintained by observing two National Immunization Days (NID) and two sub national polio immunization rounds (SNID) every year, in addition to polio vaccination through routine immunization. Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) has also been introduced across the country to further boost the population immunity as additional protection against polio.

- Vaccination to international travellers to and from 8 other countries and continuous vaccination at the international borders of India are being carried out throughout the year to mitigate risk of importation.

- Sensitivity of polio surveillance is maintained through Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) surveillance in human and environment surveillance to detect any polio threat as early as possible and respond quickly to mitigate the risk of circulation.