

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1957
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST DECEMBER, 2018**

HANDIGODU SYNDROME

**1957. SHRI D.K. SURESH:
SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:**

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

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware that Handigodu Syndrome (HS) or Handigodu Joint Disease (HJD) is a crippling disorder endemic to Malenadu (Malnad) region in Southern India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of deaths reported due to the said disease in the country during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that hundreds of people are still suffering due to Handigodu disease in the State of Karnataka and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the patients, who suffer from Handigodu disease are not getting proper medical care and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to take immediate measures to provide necessary medicines and medical treatment to cure the disease and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a): Yes. Cases of Handigodu Syndrome (HS) disease have been reported from the Malenadu region.
- (b & c): As per information received from the State Government of Karnataka, a total No. of 495 cases of Handigodu Syndrome disease have been identified from the Chikkamagaluru and Shivamogga districts since 1975. No new cases have been reported since 2005. During the last 3 years, 25 deaths out of the said 495 cases have been reported due to different causes not entirely attributed to the Handigodu Syndrome disease.
- (d): Details of treatment provided to the patients of Handigodu disease are as under:
 - i. Government of Karnataka has established one Mobile Medical Unit at Sagar taluk of Shivamogga district with a Specialist (Orthopaedic) doctor & one female health assistant who makes house to house visits to provide medical care to the affected persons. Patients

are also referred to hospitals for X-ray, physiotherapy and other medical treatment, if required.

- ii. Government of Karnataka is giving a monthly pension of Rs.1400/- to the affected and disabled patients.
 - iii. The State Government has established a free residential school where nutritional food is provided to the children of the affected persons. 40 children are availing this facility.
- (e): The Government of Karnataka is providing all the identified patients free treatment for the general ailments and physiotherapy. There is no cure available to the disease at present. Patients are getting treatment symptomatically.

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