

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.138  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE, 2019**

**DEAF AND DUMB CHILDREN**

**138. SHRI JAYADEV GALLA:**

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

- (a) the number of deaf and dumb children in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) status of implementation of National Programme for Prevention and Control of Deafness and Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) whether expenditure under the above programmes in Andhra Pradesh has come down from more than Rs. 8 crore in 2015-16 to about Rs. 4.5 crore in 2017-18 and its reasons for reduced expenditure during the last four years and the expenditure incurred in 2018-19 under above programmes in Andhra Pradesh, if so, the reasons for reduced expenditure during the period; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to make people aware of the above programmes so that they can take benefits under these schemes?

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

(a): There is no National Registry maintained at Ministry of Health and Family Welfare regarding the number of deaf and dumb children in the country.

(b): Under National Programme for Prevention and Control of Deafness (NPPCD), approvals have been given to implement the Programme in twelve districts. However, State Government is yet to implement the programme after bifurcation of the erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh.

Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) is being implemented by the Government of India from year 2013, for screening children from 0-18 years of age for 4 D's i.e. Defects, Deficiencies, Development Delays including Disability for 30 selected health conditions. As reported by the State of Andhra Pradesh, the physical achievement is as follows:

	<b>FY 2015-16</b>	<b>FY 2016-17</b>	<b>FY 2017-18</b>	<b>FY 2018-19</b>
<b>Total Children screened (0- 18 years)</b>	15,15,882	17,88,706	74,22,924	48,63,803
<b>Children identified with 4Ds</b>	2,08,531	1,97,590	73,645	1,09,287
<b>Children referred</b>	1,25,327	99,629	74,065	1,08,597
<b>Children availed services</b>	50,021	98,952	68,302	78,569

(c): Under NPPCD, financial support is provided to States/ UTs to strengthen their healthcare systems based on the requirements posed by the States/ UTs in their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) within their overall resource envelope. Under NPPCD, the expenditure has been nil in 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 because the state Government is yet to implement the Programme in Andhra Pradesh after the bifurcation of erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh.

Further, as reported by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, expenditure incurred under RBSK during last three years and 2018-19 is as follows :

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Expenditure (Rs in Lakhs)</b>
2015-16	810.6
2016-17	395.66
2017-18	694.78
2018-19	2570.38

The implementation of the National Health Mission (NHM), under which RBSK is being implemented and issues related thereto lie entirely in the domain of respective State/ UT Government (s).

(d): Under RBSK, specific IEC (Information, Education and Communication) is targeted to make people aware. In addition, the following steps have been taken to make people aware of NPPCD being implemented for hearing impaired children:-

- IEC material has been developed and distributed to States as well as uploaded on the Ministry's website [www.mohfw.nic.in](http://www.mohfw.nic.in) for easy access by State Nodal Officers (SNOs) for creating awareness among general public on prevention of deafness under NPPCD. Funds for IEC activities are allocated @ Rs.20.00 lakh per State/UT and @Rs.2.00 lakh per implementing districts.
- World Hearing Day is celebrated every year on 3rd March and on this occasion, various activities are conducted at Central and State/UT level.
- Telecast of video spots on Doordarshan and Radio spots/jingles and radio programmes through various channel of All India Radio and Lok Sabha TV is taken up regularly.
- Inter-personal communication at PHC (Primary Health Centre) /CHC (Community Health Centre) /District level by various Health functionaries.