

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3229
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH JULY, 2019**

LEPROSY ERADICATION PROGRAMME

3229. SHRI HARISH DWIVEDI:

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

- (a) whether the progress in leprosy eradication programme started in the country has been at a slow pace and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the estimated number of leprosy patients in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the socio-economic conditions of the leprosy patients in the country;
- (d) if so, the details and findings thereof; and
- (e) the measures being taken by the Government to eradicate leprosy from the country?

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

- (a): The progress in Leprosy eradication programme in the country is not slow.
- (b): The estimated number of leprosy patients in the country, State/UT-wise is placed at Annexure.
- (c) & (d): No such survey has been conducted by the Government.
- (e): After detecting the rising trend of Grade-II Disability (G2D) cases of leprosy in 2015, following measures were taken to address the issues:-

I. Early case detection:

Three pronged strategy has been adopted for early case detection through (i) Conduct of Leprosy Case Detection Campaign (LCDC) in high endemic districts, (ii) Conduct of Focused Leprosy Campaign for hot spots in those rural and urban areas where any G2D case is detected and (iii) Special Plan for case detection in hard to reach areas.

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II. To promote and encourage early case reporting:

(i) Sparsh Leprosy Awareness Campaigns (SLACs) have been introduced in all villages of the country to make people aware about the disease and the need for early reporting (ii) ASHA Based Surveillance for Leprosy Suspects (ABSULS) has been introduced wherein ASHAs in villages identify leprosy suspects and refer them to the health facility for final diagnosis.

III. Prevention of leprosy/ Interrupt transmission: Post Exposure Prophylaxis administration to contacts of new leprosy cases detected has been introduced to contain further transmission of disease in the community.

IV. Other interventions: (i) Investigation of each case of Grade II Disability (G2D) is being insisted upon in order to ascertain the causes of occurrence of G2D, (ii) Extended ASHA scheme wherein incentives are being provided to ASHA as well as any community member who refers a suspected case of leprosy to health facility after confirmation of a leprosy case. (iii) Multi Drug Therapy (MDT) is being provided to all leprosy patients free of cost. (iv) Funds for procurement of material and supplies including supportive drugs are being provided to all State/UT Governments. (v) Various services are being provided under Programme for Disability Prevention and Medical Rehabilitation (DPMR) activities which cover reaction management, self-care practices, provision of MCR footwear, Aids & Appliances, referral services for management of cases and reconstructive surgery at District Hospitals and Medical Colleges/Central leprosy/ NGO Institutions.

The above mentioned measures have given the much needed impetus to NLEP, and as a result of these, the rising trend of Grade II Disability has declined. The Grade II Disability per million which had risen to 4.48/ million population in March, 2015, has been brought down to 2.65/ million population by March, 2019.

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Annexure

The estimated number of leprosy patients in the country, State/UT- wise;

S. No.	State/UT	Leprosy Cases Total(As on March-2019)
1	Andhra Pradesh	5294
2	Arunachal Pradesh	39
3	Assam	940
4	Bihar	17154
5	Chhattisgarh	8322
6	Goa	92
7	Gujarat	5218
8	Haryana	447
9	Himachal Pradesh	150
10	Jharkhand	4942
11	Jammu & Kashmir	120
12	Karnataka	2789
13	Kerala	705
14	Madhya Pradesh	6294
15	Maharashtra	15299
16	Manipur	22
17	Meghalaya	13
18	Mizoram	5
19	Nagaland	35
20	Odisha	10786
21	Punjab	495
22	Rajasthan	1088
23	Sikkim	13
24	Tamil Nadu	4793
25	Telangana	3545
26	Tripura	26
27	Uttar Pradesh	20951
28	Uttarakhand	318
29	West Bengal	8185
30	A & N Islands	13
31	Chandigarh	149
32	D & N Haveli	261
33	Daman & Diu	27
34	Delhi	1769
35	Lakshadweep	3
36	Puducherry	32
Total		120334