

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2155  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020**

**COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION OF COVID-19**

**2155. SHRI K. NAVASKANI:  
SHRI ANTO ANTONY:  
SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARASWATI:  
SHRI D.K.SURESH:  
SHRI UTTAM KUMAR REDDY  
NALAMADA:  
MS. PRATIMA BHOUMIK:  
SHRI GAURAV GOGOI:  
ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:  
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:**

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

- (a) whether there is a community transmission of COVID-19 in the country, if so, the details of first case of community transmission of COVID-19 observed and the total number of such cases in the relevant States/UTs at that time, State/UT-wise along with the action taken by the Government to stop community transmission;
- (b) the details of the protocol recommended by the Government to prevent further community transmission of COVID-19 and the date of identification of the first instance of an active case of COVID-19 which could not be traced to a known infected contact and with no travel history;
- (c) whether Government has any data with regard to the testing done for COVID-19 virus in the country, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and number of positive cases detected State/UT-wise including Jharkhand; and
- (d) whether Government has any plan to reduce the charge/fee of RT-PCR or TrueNat or CBNAAT or RAT test in the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the number of private labs authorized to conduct these tests in the country, State/UT-wise?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) The epidemic curve of any pandemic goes through an ascending, peaking and descending phase. The current phase of pandemic in India is on multiple trajectories across the urban and semi urban areas of the country. India has reported large outbreaks in certain districts indicating spread of infection in those districts. Only 10 States are currently contributing to 75% of active

cases in the country, which suggests that COVID is still limited in spread (details at **Annexure I**). India has among the lowest cases and deaths per million population among similarly affected countries. This is further corroborated by the fact that the nationwide sero-prevalence for COVID-19 conducted in May, 2020 was found to be less than 1%.

(b) Government of India has adopted containment strategy for containing the spread of COVID-19 by suppressing/breaking the cycle of transmission in the country. The containment plans envisage a strategy of breaking the chain of transmission by (i) defining containment and buffer zones, (ii) applying strict perimeter control, (iii) intensive active house to house search for cases and contacts, (iv) isolation and testing of suspect cases and high risk contacts, (v) quarantine of high risk contacts, (vi) intensive risk communication to raise community awareness on simple preventive measures and need for prompt treatment seeking and (vii) strengthening of passive Influenza Like Illness (ILI)/ Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (SARI) surveillance in containment and buffer zones.

(c) State/UT wise details of total cases and tests conducted is at **Annexure II**.

(d) In all public health institutions under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare COVID-19 test such as RT-PCR, Truenat, CBNAAT and Rapid Antigen test are done free of cost. ICMR has also provided COVID-19 testing reagents to all the States and UTs free of cost. As health is a State subject, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has also written to all States/UTs to negotiate with private laboratories and fix up mutually agreeable prices for samples being sent by government and also for private individuals desirous of testing by these laboratories.

**Top 10 states/UTs with most active cases (as on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2020)**

State/UT	Total number of active cases	Percentage contribution to total active cases in the country
Maharashtra	297866	29.47%
Karnataka	98583	9.75%
Andhra Pradesh	81763	8.09%
Uttar Pradesh	66874	6.62%
Tamil Nadu	46453	4.60%
Kerala	37535	3.71%
Chhattisgarh	37489	3.71%
Odisha	33202	3.28%
Delhi	32064	3.17%
Telangana	30573	3.02%

**Annexure II**

State/UT wise details of total COVID-19 cases and tests conducted (as reported on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2020)

S. No.	Name of State / UT	Total Cases	Total samples tested
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3644	37595
2	Andhra Pradesh	617776	4760533
3	Arunachal Pradesh	7250	109932
4	Assam	155453	2246763
5	Bihar	166788	5095174
6	Chandigarh	9796	65031
7	Chhattisgarh	84234	797597
8	Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2887	62296
9	Delhi	242899	2571746
10	Goa	28022	254779
11	Gujarat	121768	3393279
12	Haryana	108952	1665306
13	Himachal Pradesh	11908	284101
14	Jammu & Kashmir	62533	938317
15	Jharkhand	69860	1591990
16	Karnataka	511346	4265333
17	Kerala	131005	1301622
18	Ladakh	3708	40095
19	Lakshdweep	0	3210
20	Madhya Pradesh	103065	1886861
21	Maharashtra	1188015	5641371
22	Manipur	8724	185203
23	Meghalaya	4557	91495
24	Mizoram	1578	59762
25	Nagaland	5392	38267
26	Odisha	175550	2791317
27	Puducherry	22456	106222
28	Punjab	95529	1558454
29	Rajasthan	113124	2548045
30	Sikkim	2423	35774
31	Tamil Nadu	536477	6240959
32	Telangana	171306	1639039
33	Tripura	22032	324739
34	Uttar Pradesh	348517	8249091
35	Uttarakhand	40085	563829
36	West Bengal	221960	2717710