

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED PARLIAMENT QUESTION 4919  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2022**

**UNIVERSAL SCREENING OF CHILDREN FOR LEPROSY AND TB**

**4919: SHRI C. R. PATIL**

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

- a) whether the Government has taken appropriate steps for universal screening of children below 18 years for leprosy and tuberculosis (TB);
- b) if so the details thereof;
- c) the objective of the Rashtriya Bal Swasthaya Karyakram (RBSK), and
- d) the number of children benefitted under the RBSK ?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY  
WELFARE  
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) & (b): Rashtriya Bal Swasthaya Karyakram (RBSK) programme under Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent health and Nutrition (RMNCAH+N) strategy, of National Health Mission, Government of India, provides screening services for selected health conditions to children through dedicated mobile health teams placed in every block. Children from birth to six years of age are screened at Anganwadi centres twice a year and children from 6 years till 18 years of age enrolled in Government and Government aided schools in classes 1st to 12th are screened once a year.

Screening of children for TB and Leprosy through RBSK Mobile Health teams has been introduced for early detection of TB and Leprosy. Screening tools used by RBSK Mobile Health teams have been suitably revised to include these diseases.

RBSK Mobile Health Teams refer children suspected with these conditions to respective District/Block officials for the Tuberculosis and Leprosy programmes for confirmation of preliminary findings and appropriate management as per respective National Disease Control Programme Guidelines.

(c) The objective of Rashtriya Bal Swasthaya Karyakram is early identification and early management for selected health conditions - 4 D's i.e. Defects at Birth, Developmental delays, Diseases and Deficiencies.

(d) As reported by States/UTs, under RBSK, 8.04 crores children were identified with selected health conditions and 3.11 crores children availed secondary/tertiary care, since inception in FY 2014-15.

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