

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 765
TO BE ANSWER ON 29.11.2024**

CASES OF LEPROSY

765: SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of leprosy cases reported in India during the past ten years, year-wise;
- (b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to curb the spread of leprosy, particularly in States with high prevalence rates;
- (c) the details of the allocation of funds for leprosy control programs in the country;
- (d) whether any additional resources are likely to be provided to States with highest number of such cases in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has undertaken any measures to combat the prejudice against leprosy patients and if so, the details thereof?

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

- a) The Details of Leprosy Cases reported in India during the past 10 years (F.Y. 2014-15 to F.Y. 2023-24)

Year	Cases reported in India
2014-15	125785
2015-16	127334
2016-17	135479
2017-18	126164
2018-19	120334
2019-20	114451
2020-21	65147
2021-22	75394
2022-23	103819
2023-24	107851

Source: Central Leprosy Division, MoHFW

(b) The National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) has implemented several targeted interventions to curb the spread of leprosy, especially in States with high prevalence rates. These include:

- Active Case Detection: Conducting nationwide Leprosy Case Detection Campaigns (LCDC) to actively identify undiagnosed cases in high-prevalence areas.
- Ensuring the availability of free Multi-Drug Therapy (MDT) at all levels of healthcare.
- Surveillance & Screening: Strengthening surveillance, particularly in high-prevalence States, and screening contacts and children for early detection.
- Awareness & Stigma Reduction: Organizing IEC campaigns, such as Special Leprosy Awareness Campaigns (SLAC), to promote awareness, early diagnosis, and reduce stigma..
- Capacity Building: Training healthcare workers and officials for improved detection and management.
- Focused Interventions: Implementing area-specific plans, ASHA-based surveillance, and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) with Single Dose Rifampicin (SDR).
- Strategic Plan: Aligning actions with the National Strategic Plan (2023-2027) to achieve zero transmission by 2027.

c) & d) The funds allocated for Leprosy Control Programme in the country for the past 3 years are given below:

Rs. in Lakhs		
2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
20028.17	25682.68	30430.38

The funds allocated to 15 States with highest number of cases for implementing NLEP activities is placed at (**Annexure**).

e) NLEP has undertaken several measures to combat the stigma and prejudice against leprosy patients which include:-

- Awareness Campaigns: The Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) campaigns, such as the State Leprosy Awareness Campaigns (SLAC), 25 second jingle broadcast at radio stations of various states/ UTs to raise awareness about leprosy, its treatment, and prevention. These campaigns aim to reduce misconceptions and stigma associated with the disease.
- Legislative Measures: Discriminatory laws against leprosy-affected individuals have been repealed, and States/UTs have been urged to expedite the process of repealing any remaining such laws within their jurisdictions.

Annexure referred to in reply to para (c and (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 765 for answer on 29.11.2024.

Annexure

The funds allocated to 15 States with highest number of cases

Rs.in Lakhs

S.No.	State/ UTs name	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
1	Maharashtra	2359.05	2330.63	3173.83
2	Chhattisgarh	1614.65	1761.57	1783.88
3	Delhi	239.73	263.5	213.39
4	Gujarat	254.31	746.59	622.07
5	Odisha	954.91	870.5	761.22
6	West Bengal	1320.47	1295.94	1393.34
7	Andhra Pradesh	1316.89	1331.49	2338.11
8	Bihar	2132.00	2503.27	2755.03
9	Jharkhand	855.88	784.67	1435.42
10	Madhya Pradesh	644.29	727.35	911.31
11	Telangana	1033.97	1049.07	885.46
12	Tamil Nadu	768.15	768.55	594.03
13	Uttar Pradesh	2527.65	6069.08	8527.37
14	Karnataka	968.69	1349.49	1179.23
15	Rajasthan	250.19	511.59	410.21

Source: Central Leprosy Division, MoHFW
