

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:446
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2001
POLIO ERADICATION PROGRAMME
AMIR ALAM KHAN;SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

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

- (a) whether 40 per cent of the world's polio cases are in India as reported in the Times of India dated March 9, 2001;
- (b) whether it is a fact that about 34 per cent of the world's polio cases are in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar alone;
- (c) the reasons for failure of the polio eradication programme in these States;
- (d) whether the Government propose to launch a special drive in these two States at National and State level to eradicate polio from the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the efforts made by the Government to get a polio free certificate from World Health Organisation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 446 FOR 18.4.2001

(a) & (b) As per the report of World Health Organisation for the year 2000, India reported 265 wild polio cases as against 680 cases detected in the World. Out of 680 cases of wild polio cases reported globally during 2000, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar reported 179 and 50 respectively.

(c) Significant progress has been made in control of the spread of polio transmission in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar from 1998 to 2000. There has been a decrease of 80% in Uttar Pradesh and 70% in Bihar during this period. High population density, poor sanitation, weak health infrastructure and low routine immunisation coverage have been some of the reasons for delay in progress of the polio eradication in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

(d) & (e) During 1999-2000, four national and two additional pulse polio rounds were conducted in these two States. Further, during 2000-2001, two national and two additional rounds were conducted in these States. During the current year 2001-02, pre-emptive mop-up rounds during March - May 2001, covering 40 districts in Uttar Pradesh and 15 districts in Bihar are being undertaken. Besides, it is proposed to conduct national pulse polio rounds and special pulse polio rounds in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar during the winter season of 2001-2002.

(f) 2005 has been set as the target year for obtaining polio free certificate from World Health Organisation (WHO). The Government of India has already set up the National Certification Committee for Polio Eradication in 1997, which has been monitoring the progress towards polio eradication and obtaining polio free certificate, in co-ordination with the WHO's Regional Certification Committee on Polio Eradication. The National Certification Committee would submit its report to the WHO's Regional Committee on attainment of zero polio incidence as well as on completion of three years of cessation of polio transmission in the country.