

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2180  
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2006  
NATIONAL HEALTH POLICY  
Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir

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

- (a) whether the targets of National Health Policy are likely to be achieved during the current year;
- (b) if so, the action taken to control the communicable diseases during the previous year till date;
- (c) the State-wise details thereof;
- (d) whether any assessment has been made in regard to the death rate as a result of these diseases;
- (e) if so, the steps taken to prevent such diseases; and
- (f) the reasons for lack of public health services to improve the health scenario in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) The National Health Policy 2002 has set targets to be achieved during the period 2000-15. Of the targets set for the years 2005-07, the goals have been achieved in respect of YAWS, Leprosy and setting up an Integrated System of Surveillance, National Health Accounts and Health Statistics as per schedule. As regards zero level growth of HIV/AIDS by 2007, according to the annual sentinel surveillance reports, the adult HIV prevalence for last three years has remained 0.9% indicating the zero level growth of HIV/AIDS. In the case of Polio the target set is still to be achieved.

(b) & (c) Government is implementing various national programmes for control of communicable diseases which include Programmes for Prevention of Vector Borne Diseases, Leprosy, TB and AIDS. A number of initiatives have been taken in these programmes during 10th Plan for facilitating more effective delivery, enhanced coverage and better integration. Depending on the endemicity and disease burden, a focused strategy and approach has been evolved for controlling these diseases. In the case of Vector Borne Diseases, a multi pronged strategy of disease management (including early case detection and complete treatment, strengthening of referral service and rapid response), integrated vector management (for transmission risk reduction like indoor residual spray, insecticides treated bed-nets, use of larvivorous etc.) and supportive interventions which include behavioural change communication, public private partnerships and inter-sectoral convergence. In the case of TB, the entire country has been covered under DOTS and facilities for diagnosis by Sputum Microscopy have been decentralized and strengthened. Drugs are provided under observation and patients monitored so that they complete their treatment. Under Leprosy Eradication Programme, decentralization and institutional development have been taken up by the State Leprosy Societies that have been formed are responsible for planning, implementation, monitoring and taking timely corrective action. Integration of leprosy services with general healthcare system has been introduced for better outreach. The focus of HIV/AIDS Programmes has been on spreading awareness, surveillance of HIV and provisioning of caring treatment. These national disease control programmes are implemented across all the States/UTs and are not State specific.

(d) to (f) While Assessments has been made in respect of some disease like TB where it is below 5%, in respect of others reported mortality is analyzed for taking corrective action in the strategy implemented.

Health is primarily a state subject and provision of medical relief for communicable diseases is essentially through Primary and Community Health Centres administered by the States. However, the public health delivery system is not fully functional due to a variety of reasons including inadequate infrastructure, lack of availability of manpower, drugs etc. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the States/UTs through the different national disease control programmes which have been brought under the umbrella of National Rural Health Mission wherein steps are also being taken to strengthen the public health system in order to ensure early detection and treatment of cases at the point of first contact.