

- (i) Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane for the sugar season 2009-10 has been increased to Rs. 107.76 per quintal, with an additional premium of Rs. 1.13 for every 0.1% point increase in the recovery above 9.5%. The SMP for the previous sugar season was Rs. 81.18 per quintal, with an additional premium of Re.0.90 for every 0.1% point increase in the recovery above 9%.
- (ii) A centrally sponsored scheme of Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUBACS) is under implementation. The main thrust of the scheme is on the transfer of improved production technology to the farmers through field demonstrations, training of farmers, supply of farm implement, enhancing production of planting materials, efficient use of water, treatment of planting materials etc. The scheme is under implementation in 22 States/Union Territories.
- (iii) Concessional loans at an interest rate of 4% per annum are given to sugar factories from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) for modernization of plant and machinery, expansion of crushing capacity, upgradation of technology, and sugarcane development including better irrigation facilities, improved seed variety, ratoon management, etc.

Polio cases in the country

*29. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether Government has reported two-fold increase in cases of virulent wild polio virus Type I this year as compared to the last year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether recommendations of the India Expert Advisory Group (IEAG), an expert body to the Government of India on Polio, have since been implemented; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by when the target of zero per cent polio cases is likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the current year, till 26th June, 09, 25 Wild Polio Virus Type 1 (WPV1) including one case of mixture of Wild Polio Virus Type 1 and Wild Polio Virus Type 3 (WPV3) have been reported. As against this, 8 WPV1 cases were reported till the month of June in the year 2008. State-wise breakup of the WPV1 cases reported in 2009 (till 26th June, 2009) is as under:-

State	WPV1
Uttar Pradesh	11
Bihar	10
Delhi	3
Rajasthan	1
TOTAL:	25

The number of polio cases reported in the country month-wise from 2007-2009 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The India Expert Advisory Group on Polio (IEAG) reviewed the polio epidemiological situation during its meeting held on 10-11th November, 2008 and recommended following Supplementary Immunization Activities (SIAs) to be undertaken in December, 2008, and in the first half of 2009:-

- Mop Up in the high risk districts of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in December, 2008
- National Immunization Day (NID) in January and February 2009
- Sub-National Immunization Day (SNID) in UP, Bihar and neighbouring areas at risk of spread (including Delhi and Mumbai) in March and May, 2009.
- An additional SNID should be added if Wild Polio Virus 1 (WPV1) transmission continues in the first quarter of 2009.

Based on the recommendations of the IEAG, polio immunization activities have been implemented. The January 2009 NID was preponed and implemented in December 2008 in view of the Parliament Elections and the Mop-up immunization scheduled during December, 2008 was implemented in April, 2009. In view of the reporting of WPV1 cases in low transmission season (January to April), an additional SNID has been implemented in June/July, 2009, in Bihar and UP and neighbouring areas at risk of spread (including Delhi and Mumbai). An additional round with monovalent Oral Polio Vaccine 3 (mOPV3) was implemented in the State of Bihar on 2nd May, 2009, based on the analysis of evolving epidemiology.

The epidemiology of polio was reviewed by the IEAG in its meeting held on 24-25th June, 2009. The IEAG has recommended implementing the SNIDs in August and September, 2009, covering whole of UP, Bihar and neighbouring areas at risk of spread. This will be followed by SNID in November and December, 2009, covering infected and high risk zones of UP and Bihar. The IEAG concluded that epidemiologic, virologic, genetic, operational and technical evidence all suggest that India is firmly on the right path to finish eradication.

Statement

P1, P3 cases by month and year, India

Month	P1			P3		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
January	15	1	7	9	111	7
February	6	2	2	8	51	3
March	8	1	3	6	39	13
April	3	0	4	11	40	9
May	7	1	5	25	33	19
June	1	3	4	29	35	14
July	10	7		54	46	
August	11	21		68	46	
September	5	17		78	32	
October	3	5		95	27	
November	9	8		195	16	
December	5	9		216	8	
TOTAL:	83	75	25	794	484	65

Note: P1 Case included P1+P3 wild mixture; 3 in 2007 (1 in August, 1 in September and 1 in November) and 1 in May 2009.

Data as on 26th June, 2009

Chartering special trains

*30. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the policy guidelines for chartering special trains in Hill Railways and other special trains;

(b) whether Railways have earmarked the circuits where such chartered trains operate;

(c) what is the annual revenue earned from them by the IRCTC during last three years; and

(d) what is the revenue sharing agreement between IRCTC and the Indian Railways in this respect?