

Rise in leprosy

235. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards growing number of new leprosy cases in the country;

(b) if so, what is Government's response and reaction thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken for improving healthcare system, particularly in the face of growing number of leprosy cases in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) to (c) New cases of leprosy detected in the country during last four years are as given below:

Year	No. of new cases
2010-11	126800
2011-12	127295
2012-13	134752
2013-14	126913

Facilities for diagnosis and treatment of leprosy are available at Government health facilities free of cost. A national programme for leprosy is under implementation as a part of National Health Mission. The special measures for achieving elimination of leprosy at district level include improved and early case detection and case management through intensified activities like active case finding, IEC/BCC in the community, capacity building of medical, para-medical and community workers and improved monitoring and supervision. Provision for engaging additional manpower by State Governments to strengthen the leprosy services particularly in the high endemic districts has been made.

Action plan to fight vector borne diseases

236. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is home to Dengue, a fast spreading vector-borne disease affecting mostly poor people and costing India nearly \$45 million every year, as per WHO report;

(b) whether India is home to the rabies virus and around 20,000 rabies deaths occur in India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;