| 148 Written Answers to |            | [RAJYA SABHA] |     | Unstarred Questions |     |
|------------------------|------------|---------------|-----|---------------------|-----|
| 1                      | 2          | 3             | 4   | 5                   | 6   |
| 21.                    | Ranchi     | Nil           | Nil | Nil                 | Nil |
| 22.                    | Shillong   | Nil           | Nil | Nil                 | Nil |
| 23.                    | Trivandrum | Nil           | Nil | Nil                 | 06  |
| 24.                    | CGHS NZ    | Nil           | Nil | Nil                 | Nil |
| 25.                    | CGHS SZ    | Nil           | Nil | Nil                 | 02  |
| 26.                    | CGHS CZ    | Nil           | Nil | Nil                 | Nil |
| 27.                    | CGHS EZ    | Nil           | Nil | 02                  | 05  |

Rumours on Ebola disease in India

2613. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the precautionary steps taken by Government to prevent the spread of Ebola in the country;
- (b) whether Government is aware that in the social media certain persons are scaring the citizens that the dreaded disease has entered India; and
  - (c) if so, whether Government will dispel such rumours?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) Government has taken a series of measures to prevent entry of Ebola Virus Disease into the country and to contain it rapidly, if a case is reported in India. There is screening of passengers coming from affected countries at 18 International airports and 9 major ports. Government has decided to reroute passengers from affected countries to seven International Airports at Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Kochi. The Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme is tracking such passengers arriving from affected countries having history of contact with a suspect or confirmed Ebola Case. Two laboratories namely National Institute of Virology, Pune and National Centre for Disease Control, Delhi are testing clinical samples of high risk passengers. State Governments have identified isolation facilities. Training for Master Trainers and Rapid Response teams of the States/Union Territories have been accomplished. Personal Protective Equipments have been provided to the States/Union Territories.

(b) and (c) Some social and print media had reported that first case of Ebola

has entered in India. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issued a press release dated 18th November, 2014 in this regard clarifying all related issues. A copy of the same is given in the Statement.

## Statement

Press Release issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Press Information Bureau Government of India

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

18 November, 2014 19:48 IST

## Ebola Treated and Cured Person from Liberia Quarantined at Airport Health Organisation Quarantine Centre, Delhi

A 26 year old male, Indian, had travelled from Liberia to India and reached Delhi on 10th November, 2014. He underwent the mandatory screening at the Delhi Airport. On interview, he gave history of febrile illness for which he was admitted to a health facility in Liberia on 11th September, 2014 and got discharged on 30th September, 2014. He carried a certificate of medical clearance from the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Government of Liberia mentioning that 'he has successfully undergone care and treatment related to Ebola Virus Disease and after post treatment assessment he has been declared free of any clinical signs and symptoms and confirmed negative by laboratory analysis'.

As a matter of abundant caution, he was isolated at the Airport Health Organization's Quarantine Centre at Delhi Airport. His three blood samples tested at National Centre for Disease Control, Delhi on 10-13 November, 2014, respectively, were found negative for Ebola Virus Disease by Reverse Transcriptase Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) tests. Therefore, as per WHO and CDC specifications, he is deemed to be cured. However, as has been reported in the past, the virus may continue to be positive in secretions like urine and semen for a longer time. Before releasing him from quarantine, a decision was taken to test his other body fluids. His semen sample tested at National Centre for Disease Control on 17th November, 2014 was found positive for Ebola Virus by RT-PCR. The tests for semen samples repeated at National Institute of Virology, Pune, on 17th November, 2014 also tested positive. This was confirmed by DG, ICMR on 18th November, 2014.

It is a known fact that during convalescence from Ebola Virus Disease, persons continue to shed virus in body fluids for variable periods. However, presence of virus in his semen samples may have the possibility of transmitting the disease through sexual route upto 90 days from time of clinical cure.

Currently, this person is not having any symptoms of the disease. However, he would be kept under isolation in the special health facility of Delhi Airport Health Organization, till such time his body fluids test negative and he is found medically fit to be discharged.

It is reiterated that the person concerned is a treated and cured case of Ebola Virus Disease. No cases of relapse of Ebola have been documented. All necessary precautions are being taken at the isolation facility. This would rule out even the remote possibility of spread of this disease by the sexual route. The situation is under control and there is no need for any alarm. However, all precautions are being taken in this regard.

## Poor management of non-communicable diseases by States

- 2614. SHRI A. W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that even non-communicable diseases account for 53 per cent deaths in India and over 5.2 million people died in India in 2008 due to non-communicable diseases with 38 per cent of them under the age of 60 as per WHO report;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government's schemes to address the diseases is facing poor implementation as many States were sitting on around ₹170 crores of unspent balance at the end of fiscal 2014 accumulated over the past two years; and
  - (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) and (b) Yes. As per World Health Organisation (WHO) NCD Country Profile 2011 giving estimation of 2008, non-communicable diseases account for 53% deaths in India and over 5.2 million people died in 2008 due to non-communicable diseases. The estimated deaths under the age of 60 was 38 per cent male and 32.1 per cent female.

(c) and (d) Government of India launched National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) in July, 2010 with the aim to prevent and control these diseases through awareness generation, behaviour and life-style changes, early diagnosis of persons with