

Launching of national de-worming initiative

932. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

DR. PRABHAKAR KORE:

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

(a) whether WHO studies show 241 million children in the 1 to 14 years age group in India are at risk of parasitic worms;

(b) if so, whether worms can cause anaemia, under-nutrition, impairment of mental and physical development;

(c) whether Government is contemplating to launch a national de-worming initiative among all pre-school and school age children across the country;

(d) if so, the salient features of the scheme;

(e) whether the initiative will be launched in all districts of the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) Yes.

As per World Health Organization (WHO) database (2012), it is estimated that 241 million children (68%) between the ages of 1 – 14 years in India are at risk of parasitic intestinal worms.

(b) Intestinal worms can lead to adverse health and nutrition impacts like anaemia, undernutrition and impairment of mental and physical development. Scientific evidences available clearly indicate that intestinal worms cause chronic intestinal blood loss that results in anaemia.

(c) and (d) Government of India has already launched National Deworming Day in 11 States/UT of India, namely Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Haryana, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Tripura.

The salient features of this initiative are as follows :-

- All pre-school and school-age children (enrolled and non-enrolled) between

the ages of 1 – 19 years were administered deworming drug *i.e.* Albendazole tablet through the platform of schools and anganwadi centres in order to improve their overall health, nutritional status, access to education and quality of life.

- Anganwadi workers provided deworming drug to all pre-school children (1-5 years) and all out of school children (6-19 years) at the Anganwadi centres and School teachers provided deworming drug to all school enrolled children of 6-19 years age as per the national guidelines.

In addition, Government has provided detailed guidelines for implementation of deworming intervention alongwith training, awareness generation and ensuring sufficient stock supply of deworming drug. There are specific guidelines / protocols for adverse event management as well.

(e) to (g) Out of the 303 districts in these 11 States/UT, National Deworming Day was launched in 280 districts.

With an aim to avoid duplication of intervention, 83 Lymphatic Filariasis endemic districts in these 11 States/UT were excluded, as administration of Albendazole is already part of Mass Drug Administration (MDA) regime under Lymphatic Filariasis program.

Manpower crisis in RINPAS, Ranchi

933. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mental health care centres and hospitals available in Jharkhand;

(b) whether Government is aware that one of the oldest (established in April, 1925) mental hospitals of India situated in Ranchi (Kanke), Jharkhand, presently named as Ranchi Institute of Neuro-Phychiatry and Allied Science (RINPAS), is facing severe crisis of manpower and needs administrative reforms; and

(c) if so, the details thereof of the crisis and steps proposed to be taken to resolve the issues?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA) : (a) to (c) Information regarding the number of hospitals and