

for rotavirus in India. ICMR is also supporting research studies to improve case management of childhood pneumonia.

Disease surveillance centres

1431. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to open a network of disease surveillance centres across the country to tackle the scourge of TB and re-emergence of infectious diseases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to pick early warning signals of outbreaks and institution of appropriate control measures in a timely manner and also to strengthen the surveillance system for prevention and control of communicable diseases?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) to (c) Government of India is implementing the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) in all States/UTs with the objective to detect and respond to outbreaks due to epidemic prone diseases. Under IDSP the districts and States have been strengthened by providing additional manpower, training of identified Rapid Response Team (RRT) members for outbreak investigations, strengthening of laboratories for detection of epidemic prone diseases, Information Communication Technology (ICT) equipment for data entry, analysis and data transfer, and provision of funds for operationalization.

Weekly data on morbidity for epidemic prone diseases is collected in Syndromic, Presumptive and laboratory confirmed cases and analyzed to detect early rising phase of disease outbreaks, which is reported and responded to by trained rapid response teams of the Districts/States. Prevention and control of Tuberculosis is being implemented under another National Programme, namely, the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP).

Deteriorating standard of programmes on Doordarshan

1432. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the quality of programmes presented on DD National and DD Metro and other channels is gradually deteriorating as compared to the other countries;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and