

Deaths from TB, Malaria and infectious diseases

†259. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people are dying every year due to TB, Malaria and infectious diseases in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to take concrete and effective steps to control this; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a): According to WHO estimates for India, TB accounts for 2.2 lakh deaths annually.

The number of reported deaths on account of Malaria and some other major communicable diseases are as under:

Disease	Year 2014	Year 2015*
Malaria	562	287
Dengue	137	220
JE/AES	293	281
Kala-Azar	11	5
HIV/AIDS	41956	45233
	(2014-15)	(2015-16 upto Feb 2016)

*Provisional

(b) and (c) The Government is implementing Communicable Disease Control Programmes, such as the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP), National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP), National AIDS Control Programme (NACP), Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), among others for prevention and control of major communicable diseases.

Impact of air pollution on childrens' health in Delhi

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

(a) whether it is a fact that children in Delhi have been gasping for breath on account of a high rise in air pollution;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether a number of children in Delhi have weak lungs, as per a survey; and

(c) whether Government has devised an action plan to address this serious issue, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes. The children in Delhi are facing breathing difficulties on account of a high rise in air pollution. In this regard a "Study on Ambient Air Quality Respiratory Symptoms and Lung Function of Children in Delhi" was conducted by Chittranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata under the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) during March, 2003–August, 2005.

(b) The study conducted on 11,628 children of Delhi revealed that compared to controlled groups, Delhi's children had 1.80-times more Upper respiratory symptoms (sinusitis, running or stuffy nose, sneezing, sore throat and common cold with fever) and 2-times more Lower respiratory symptoms (frequent dry cough, sputum-producing cough, wheezing breath, breathlessness on exertion, chest pain or tightness and disturbed sleep due to breathing problems) suggesting higher prevalence of underlying respiratory diseases. A reduction of lung function 43.5% in school children of Delhi compared with 25.7% in control group was seen, which was more prevalent in girls.

(c) Yes. The Government have evolved action plan in order to improve the Air Quality in Delhi and NCR by taking steps in the following fields:

- (i) Control of Vehicular Emissions;
- (ii) Control of Road Dust/ Re-suspension of dust and other fugitive emission;
- (iii) Control of Air Pollution from Bio-Mass Burning;
- (iv) Control of Industrial Air Pollution;
- (v) Control of Air Pollution from Construction and Demolition Activities.

In addition to above, the Government have taken various other steps to Control Air Pollution in Delhi.

Certification for new TB drug

261. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that a new Tuberculosis (TB) (Extensive Drug Resistance TB) drug has been added in TB control programme;

(b) if so, whether it has been tried and tested on human beings;