

**Measures to check spread of TB in Maharashtra**

1253. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India is at the top in the list of highest number of Tuberculosis patients in the world, particularly in the State of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details of the precautionary measures Government is taking/ proposes to take; and
- (c) whether Government has any target period for sustainable development of healthcare for the people of the country and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY): (a) No. The estimated incidence of Tuberculosis in India as per the Global TB report 2017 is 211 per lakh population per year and ranks 33rd in the world. India being a large, populous country, in absolute numbers, accounts for 27.8 lakh estimated new TB cases annually, which is the highest.

The total number of cases reported to the Programme in the State of Maharashtra in the year 2017 is 2,04,710.

(b) and (c) The National Strategic Plan (NSP) for Tuberculosis (2017-25) has been formulated by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare with a target of eliminating TB from the country by 2025. In addition to the existing strategies under RNTCP, the NSP focusses on:—

- early diagnosis of all the TB patients, prompt treatment with quality assured drugs and treatment regimens.
- suitable patient support systems to promote adherence.
- engaging with the patients seeking care in the private sector.
- prevention strategies including active case finding and
- contact tracing in high risk / vulnerable population.
- airborne infection control.
- Multi-sectoral response to address social determinants.