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Govt initiates Pulse Polio programme for 2018

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In India, the last polio case was recorded on 13 January 2011.



The government has recently launched Pulse Polio programme for 2018, generating concerns over any entry of polio virus from other countries.

Between January 2015 and May 2016, a total of 14 sewage samples collected from different parts of the country tested positive for vaccine-derived polioviruses (VDPVs) . None of these VDPVs detected in the sewage infected any children, so far.

According to WHO data,in 2016, Pakistan reported 20 wild poliovirus cases while Afghanistan saw 13 cases. The WHO has stated that international travellers carry the risk of spreading the virus.

India was declared polio-free on 27 March 2014. Despite India being polio free, it has made cross border surveillance stringent. In India the last polio case was recorded on 13 January 2011.

India has done two nationwide polio campaigns this year. Polio vaccination is being carried out at international borders and is a must for people travelling to polio affected countries.