

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4740  
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2000  
CHICKEN POX/SMALL POX  
RENU KUMARI SINGH

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

- (a) the programmes being run by the Union Government to control chicken pox/small pox;
- (b) the reasons for discontinuing the immunization programme;
- (c) whether the Government have asked for some report from the hospitals and dispensaries on the increasing number of patients of chicken pox;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to control the disease fully?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a)&(b) Small Pox has been eradicated globally. If and when a rumour of occurrence of small pox is received the same is investigated immediately by the National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi. So far chicken pox immunization is not a part of Universal Immunization Programme.

(c ) to (e) While Government has not asked for specific reports regarding the incidence of chicken pox from hospitals and dispensaries, it is relevant to mention that chicken pox is a self-limiting disease and its treatment is symptomatic. Facilities for treatment of chicken pox and any of its complications are available in various hospitals both in Government and private sector.