

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4593
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2001
SPREADING OF JAUNDICE .
BHUPENDRASINH PRABHATSINH SOLANKI

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

- (a) whether Jaundice is spreading in many parts of the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government are examining the causes responsible for the spread of Jaundice; and
- (c) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to take any steps to prevent it?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (c) Jaundice is prevalent in many parts of the Country despite steps being taken for its prevention. Jaundice is caused by hepatitis A, B, C, D, E and G viruses. Viral Hepatitis A and E are transmitted by contaminated water, food and poor personal hygiene. The control measures for Hepatitis A and E are directed towards provision of safe water supply, improvement of environmental sanitation, food and personal hygiene. The other forms of hepatitis are transmitted through parenteral, sexual route and from mother to child. The following measures have been taken to control blood borne hepatitis infection:- Mandatory screening of blood at blood banks Health education activities to promote safe sex behaviour under the National AIDS Control Programme Instructions issued to the Health authorities for use of a separate sterile syringe and needle for each injection. Immunization of high risk personnel in Central Government hospitals. State Governments have been advised to take similar steps.