

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:96
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2002
DEATH OF CHILDREN DUE TO POLIO DROPS
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RADHA MOHAN SINGH

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

- (a) whether the Government have received any information with regard to the death of several children due to polio drops administered at various health centres on January 20, 2002;
- (b) if so, the names of those health centres and the number of children died as a result of polio drops administered by each of these centres alongwith the causes therefor; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a)to(c): Although some press reports have come alleging deaths of children due to administration of oral polio vaccine, investigations into all such cases have revealed that no death of children was due to administration of oral polio vaccine. These deaths were due to other coincidental causes. Oral polio vaccine is an absolutely safe vaccine which cannot cause death, even if it loses potency.