

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:321
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2004
VACCINES FOR IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME
Ahmad Shri Ateeq

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

- (a) whether the vaccines for Hepatitis A,B, Chicknpox and Rabies are not covered under the National Immunisation Programme;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to include these vaccines in the National Immunisation Programme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 321 FOR 22ND DECEMBER, 2004

The Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) was started in 1985 and implemented in a phased manner so as to cover the entire country by 1990. Under this programme, vaccines having the maximum impact on mortality and morbidity were considered in order to reduce the Infant Mortality Rate. The vaccines that are presently being administered under the UIP are BCG, DPT, Polio, Measles, DT and TT.

The Hepatitis-B vaccine has been introduced in the country as a pilot project in 15 cities and 33 districts in 2002-03. The introduction of newer vaccine like Chickenpox and Hepatitis A have not been considered as these vaccines are having very minimal impact on the mortality rate and are recent entrants and very costly. The Anti Rabies vaccine has not been considered for routine vaccination of children as it is incidence based and it is being given to general public including children following dog bites/animal bite.