

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3548
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2008
EFFECTIVENESS OF DPT VACCINE
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

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

- (a) whether effect of DPT vaccine are not for the whole life and revaccination is required after 6-7 years as reported in 'The Times of India' dated March 30, 2008;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any remedial measures in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

- (a) & (b) Under the Universal Immunization Programme, Infants are vaccinated with DPT vaccine at the age of 6, 10 & 14 weeks and Booster dose at 18 months of age to immunize against Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetnus Toxoid. The tetanus and diphtheria toxoids are highly immunogenic (95-100%), the pertussis vaccine has a protective efficacy of 70-90%.Duration of immunity after whole cell vaccine declines by 50% over a period of 6-12 years.Because the traditional whole cell vaccine was considered too reactogenic to be administered after 6 years, the immunization schedule did not include additional pertussis immunization after that age.
- (c) & (d) Under the Universal Immunization Programme, DT (Diphtheria & Tetnus Toxoid) vaccine is administered to the children at the age of 5 years and TT (Tetnus Toxoid) at the age of 10 & 16 years.