

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:265
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2008
SHORTAGE OF VACCINES FOR IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether shortage of Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus (DPT) and Diphtheria and Tetanus (DT) vaccines in the country has adversely affected the Universal Immunisation Programme as reported in The Hindu dated 12 November, 2008;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of the States where such shortages have been noticed; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 265 FOR 17.12.2008

The shortage of Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus (DPT) and Diphtheria and Tetanus (DT) has marginally affected the Universal Immunisation Programme to some extent in some States for some time.

The status of availability of DPT and DT vaccines in the States during April, 08 to November, 08 is enclosed at Annexures-I & II.

The Government of India has placed supply orders for supply of DPT and DT vaccines as per the annual requirement of vaccine along with the buffer stock for the year 2008-09. The supplies of DPT vaccines have been started by the manufacturers from the month of September, 2008, whereas the supplies of DT have been started from the month of November, 2008.