

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2128
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2010
PREVENTIONS OF INFLUENZA A H N
Sivasami Shri C.;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether the World Health Organisation (WHO) has estimated that 7 to 10 per cent of the cases of Influenza A H1N1 being admitted in Hospitals are of pregnant women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some study has revealed that the Indian System of Medicine particularly Homoeopathy can prevent/cure Influenza A H1N1 and Japanese Encephalitis;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to introduce these medicines in all Government hospitals;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether any incidents to cover up of deaths caused by Influenza A H1N1 in the country have come to the notice of the Government; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in such cases?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

- (a) & (b) WHO has observed that there is increased risk with Influenza A H1N1 for pregnant women. Pregnant women appear to be approximately 4-5 times more likely to develop severe disease. According to Centre for Disease Control (CDC), Atlanta, USA, nine per cent of the hospitalizations in that country were pregnant women.
- (c) No such studies have been conducted in Ayurveda and Siddha. In Homoeopathy preventive medicine for a particular epidemic is identified through a compilation and analysis of symptoms of the cases affected by that epidemic. After studying affected cases in Kottayam district of Kerala and Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh, preventive medicine for Influenza like illness has been identified as Arsenic Album 30. The study with Homoeopathy medicine Belladonna for Japanese Encephalitis is not conclusive.
- (d) & (e) Arsenic Album is a common Homoeopathy medicine which is freely available in all Government Hospital/dispensaries wherever facilities for homeopathic treatment are set up.
- (f) No.
- (g) Does not arise.