

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2798
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2010
DRUG RESISTANT INFLUENZA A H N VIRUS
Badal Harsimrat Kaur

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

- (a) whether the virus of Pandemic Influenza A H1N1 is prone to mutation and resistant to drugs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether reports of patients not responding to the available drugs have been received by the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State/UT wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to control the drug-resistant Influenza A H1N1 virus in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI)

- (a) & (b) Yes. The influenza virus is an unstable virus which is prone to reassortment with segments of existing human avian and swine influenza viruses and mutates to form a novel virus, antigenically distinct from existing influenza viruses. The virus is also capable in changing its genetic constitution to become resistant to drugs.
- (c) & (d) National Institute of Virology, Pune is testing the virus. As of now, no drug resistant strain of pandemic influenza A H1N1 has been reported in India.
- (e) Does not arise.