

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1567

ANSWERED ON:04.03.2011

DEATHS DUE TO DPT VACCINATION

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

- (a) whether certain cases of deaths of children have been reported after being administered DPT vaccines under the National Immunization Programme;
- (b) if so, the number of such incidents reported from different parts of the country, State-wise particularly in Maharashtra during the last two years;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any investigation in this regard;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Yes, the deaths of children were reported following DPT vaccination under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP). State-wise details are annexed.
- (c): Yes, as per guidelines, District & State Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI) Committees have conducted investigations.
- (d): A total of 83 AEFI deaths following administration of DPT vaccine have been reported during the year 2009 and 2010. All these cases were investigated and majority (55) were co-incidental, in 2 cases deaths were due to individual vaccine reaction, in 1 case death was due to toxic shock syndrome and in the remaining (23) cases cause could not be found out. The reports of the DPT vaccine samples sent for laboratory examination were found to be of "Standard Quality".
- (e): Following steps are taken with respect to AEFI:
 - 1. Early detection of any Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI) and its rapid management to prevent/reduce the amount of damage caused.
 - 2. To prevent programme error related AEFI, guidelines have been issued for each step related to immunization
 - 3. Hands-on training and supportive supervision of the immunization session.
 - 4. Training of all level of health care personnel (Medical Officers, ANM, Cold Chain handlers etc) on issues related to prevention of AEFI and management and reporting in case of an AEFI.