

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3091

ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011

CASES OF INFLUENZA H5N1 AND VIROLOGY INSTITUTES

Gangaram Shri Awale Jaywant;Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the report of spread of Influenza H5N1 or Bird Flu in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of cases of Influenza H5N1 or Bird Flu reported and the deaths occurred therefrom during each of the last three years and the current year so far, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the details of the existing Virology Institutes for the early detection of such diseases alongwith the steps taken/ proposed to set up Virology Institutes in other States including Gujarat, State/UTwise;
- (d) whether the Government has received proposals for opening such institute in various States;
- (e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and
- (f) the action taken/proposed on each of these proposals?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) Yes. There had been outbreaks of influenza H5N1 in poultry. There had been no human case of influenza H5N1 reported in India.
- (c) There are 45 laboratories (26 in Govt. Sector and 19 in private sector) testing pandemic influenza A H1N1 in the country including Gujarat. These laboratories have been linked to cover all States/UTs. If there is an outbreak of influenza H5N1 among humans, these laboratories can test the samples (details are in the Annexure).
- (d) to (f) No proposal has been received from any State during the last three years to open Virology Institute for testing H5N1.