

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1294
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012
RUBELLA DEATHS
Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Singh Shri Uday Pratap

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

- (a) whether rubella deaths are on the rise in country;
- (b) if so, the number of rubella deaths reported in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether there is any scheme of Rubella vaccination for girls of more than 14 years age and unmarried girls to prevent the birth of disabled children in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State/UTwise; and
- (e) the details of the other schemes which save the newly born children from disability?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

- (a) & (b): Deaths due to rubella for adult rubella infection are not documented in the literature. However, fetal death may occur in some infected pregnant women in early pregnancy. Rubella is an acute usually mild self limiting viral disease affecting susceptible children and young adults.
- (c): Presently, there is no such scheme.
- (d): In view of (c) above, the question does not arise.
- (e): There is no specific scheme for prevention of disability in the new born. However, the Government of India is providing immunization to all infants against polio as part of the National Polio Eradication Programme under the universal immunization programme. Effective implementation of the programme has resulted in no case of polio being reported since January, 2011. The Government of India has also introduced JE immunization in endemic States to prevent disabilities to JE infection. In addition, the Government has introduced HIB vaccine in two States which will prevent disability that may occur due to sequelae of meningitis caused Haemophilus influenza b.