

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2079
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2012
DEATHS OF INFANTS DUE TO IMMUNISATION
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of infants have died due to adverse effect after immunisation during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government was procuring these spurious vaccines from private suppliers; and
- (e) if so, the action taken by the Government against these private suppliers?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Serious Adverse Events following Immunization (AEFI) including deaths are being reported due to strengthening of AEFI monitoring system. AEFI are monitored by Government to build confidence of the community in the Immunization Programme as all serious AEFI including deaths following immunization may not be related to vaccination. The reasons of death of children due to AEFI during last three years is under:

Reasons 2011 2010 2009

Injection Reaction	0	1	0
Programme Error	6	11	4
Vaccine Reaction	4	10	6
Co-incidental	67	78	53
Unclassifiable	56	38	53
Total	133	138	116

(c): The various measures taken by the Government in this regard are as under:

From time to time, State Governments are given instructions by the Central Government on 'dos and don'ts' to minimize AEFI due to programmatic error.

Supervisory visits are made to monitor and review immunization programme so as to minimize AEFI deaths due to programmatic errors.

All reported AEFI cases are analyzed by District/State/National AEFI committees and in case of any programmatic error immediate actions are taken.

To strengthen AEFI reporting the following measure are also being taken:

Guidelines for AEFI were revised in 2010 and the revised guidelines have been disseminated.

Training of officers associated with immunization at various levels has been carried out so that AEFI deaths due to programmatic errors are minimized. During this training emphasis has been given for immediate case management of any AEFI cases.

(d): The vaccine are procured from DCG(I) (Drug Controller General of India) licensed government and private manufacturer having cGMP (Comprehensive Good Manufacturing Practice) certificate. Further before supply to the states, these vaccines are inspected and tested in Central Drug Laboratory, Kasauli. Hence no spurious vaccines are procured.

(e): Does not arise in view of reply to part (d) above.