

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3418

ANSWERED ON:31.08.2012

UNSAFE INJECTIONS

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

- (a) whether as per the World Health Organisation (WHO) report 62.9 per cent of injections administered in India and 74 per cent injections administered to newborn babies in the immunization programmes at vaccination centres are unsafe;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the number of newborn babies died due to unsafe injections administered under immunization programmes during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (d) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, as per the World Health Organisation (WHO) report published in 2004, 62.9 per cent of injections administered in India and 74 per cent injections administered to newborn babies in the immunization programmes at vaccination centres are unsafe.

The "Injection practices in India" study was conducted during the period from 2002 to 2004 and published in 2004. Based on the report of unsafe injection practices in immunization programme, Government introduced Auto Disable (AD) syringes in the immunization programme since 2005.

(c) & (d): The AD syringe gets locked after single use thereby preventing its reuse, therefore, for each dose of vaccine injection new sterile AD syringe is used and also health care workers have been provided training on immunization practices. These remedial measures have thus prevented unsafe injection under immunization programme. No death has been reported due to unsafe injection administration under immunization programme.