

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1253
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2012
ANTI TUBERCULOSIS VACCINES
Karunakaran Shri P.

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

- (a) whether India shoulders the highest burden of tuberculosis in the world with nearly three lakh related deaths in a year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the facts in this regard;
- (c) the details of vaccines available in the country to protect children as well as adolescents and adults from tuberculosis;
- (d) whether BCG or Bacille Calmette-Guerin vaccine is effective to protect adults from tuberculosis; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the alternative anti-TB vaccine being developed/made available to the people in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ABU HASEM KHAN CHOUDHURY)

(a)&(b) Yes. As per the WHO Global Report 2010, there were an estimated 2.0 million new cases of TB in 2009 with an estimated 2.8 lakh deaths due to TB.

(c)to (e) Bacilli Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccine is available in the country. As per the available evidence, the BCG vaccine is protective against the development of severe forms of childhood TB.

As on date, there is no alternative anti-TB vaccine available in the country, however, a few vaccines are in the early stages of development.