

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1218
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2014
ANTI RABIES VACCINES
Shetti Shri Raju alias Devappa Anna

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

- (a) the number of persons died due to rabies in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UTwise;
- (b) whether anti rabies vaccines are available in sufficient quantity at health Centres/District Hospitals across the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for providing adequate antirabies vaccines to the State health departments to prevent deaths due to dog bites in the country; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to issue directions to the concerned companies for providing anti-rabies vaccine at reasonable price and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

- (a): State/UT-wise number of cases/deaths due to Rabies reported during the year 2011-2014 are given in the Annexure.
- (b) to (e): Health is a State subject. Therefore, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to ensure availability of anti-rabies vaccine. However, under the National Health Mission (NHM), funds are provided to states for procurement of drugs including anti-rabies vaccine to make up for any shortages. State Governments have also been advised to procure and supply anti-rabies vaccine out of the normal health budget. In cases of emergency, untied funds available at different health facilities can also be utilized for this purpose so that no one is denied vaccine at public health facilities.