

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO02.03.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**SIDE EFFECTS OF VACCINES .**

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SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT

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

- (a) whether Pentavalent Vaccine, the standard DPT (Triple Vaccin
- (e) along with Hepatitis-B and Hib Vaccine, has been licensed for use in India by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) and is therefore being prescribed by many doctors;
- (b) whether this vaccine has been withdrawn by countries like Srilanka and Bhutan from their Public Health System after many patients had developed serious side effects and some of them died;
- (c) whether the DCGI has made any attempt to issue an advisory to doctors about the reports from neighbouring countries; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI)

- (a) : Yes.
- (b) : The Government of Bhutan has suspended the use of a pentavalent (DTwp\_HepB-Hib) vaccine procured through UNICEF with support from Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) as a precautionary measure following reports of serious adverse events following immunization. There is no confirmation about the withdrawal by Sri Lanka.
- (c) Yes. The Central Drug Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has already initiated steps for issue of an advisory to doctors about the reports from neighbouring countries.
- (d): Does not arise