

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1084  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2025**

**STOCK LEVELS OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES**

**1084. SHRI PRAKASH CHIK BARAIK:**

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

- (a) the stock levels of essential medicines-including paracetamol and critical antibiotics-held at Central and State warehouses;
- (b) the readiness of the National Health Mission to respond to monsoon-related disease outbreaks; and
- (c) the inter-ministerial coordination steps for ramping up surveillance and rapid response teams?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY  
WELFARE  
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) 'Health' is a State subject. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, under Free Drugs Service Initiative (FDSI) supports States and Union Territories for uninterrupted availability of essential medicines including commonly used drugs like Paracetamol, critical antibiotics and medicines needed to manage seasonal and monsoon related diseases through structured procurement and warehousing mechanism.

The Drugs and Vaccine Distribution Management System (DVDMS) is implemented across several states and enables real-time tracking of medicine, diagnostic reagents, consumables & rapid diagnostic kits availability across state warehouses, district warehouses, and health facilities. This system ensures monitoring of stock levels, expiry status, consumption trends, and replenishment alerts.

(b) Under Ayushman Bharat, Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (AAMs) provide a package of comprehensive primary health care services including management of monsoon related disease outbreaks. Ayushman Arogya Mandir Sub Health Centres (AAM-SHCs) function as surveillance hubs, besides healthcare services, that facilitate early detection, rapid response, and community-level containment.

AAM facilities thus play a pivotal role in managing disease outbreaks like fever, malaria, dengue, typhoid, and other water- and vector-borne illnesses that are more likely to occur during the monsoon season.

To enhance disease surveillance activities, the Ministry under its Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) across the country, allows for a decentralized system of response through trained multi-disciplinary Rapid Response Team (RRTs). The system provides for requisite public health control and containment measures in the country.

(c) Some of the key initiatives taken by Government of India to enhance inter-ministerial coordination for disease surveillance and response include:

- i. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in collaboration with relevant stakeholder Ministries/ Department has constituted a National Joint Outbreak Response Team (NJORT), comprising experts from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), and Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change. The NJORT is deployed to assist States/UTs in conducting a detailed epidemiological investigation into the disease outbreaks and in undertaking public health measures for the same.
- ii. To further strengthen the disease surveillance, Ministry of Jal Shakti has been given the access to Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) portal to monitor various water borne diseases, so that timely public health actions may be taken.
- iii. Field Epidemiology Programme (FEP) training programme on One Health has been designed collaboratively by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying for joint risk assessment and outbreak investigation by State, district, and field level officers.

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