

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2850
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17th MARCH 2026**

NATIONAL HPV VACCINATION PROGRAMME IN THE COUNTRY

**2850. DR. PARMAR JASHVANTSINH SALAMSINH :
SHRI NARHARI AMIN :**

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

- (a) whether Government has launched a nationwide National HPV (Human Papillomavirus) Vaccination Programme across all States and Union Territories, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the objectives, scope and implementation framework of the programme, including the targeted age group, coverage strategy and measures taken to ensure equitable access, particularly in rural and underserved areas;
- (c) whether the programme forms part of Government's strategy for elimination of cervical cancer in the country; and
- (d) the scientific evidence regarding the effectiveness of the HPV vaccine in preventing cervical cancer and other HPV-related diseases, including the percentage efficacy reported in clinical studies?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) & (b) The Nationwide free HPV vaccination campaign was launched on 28th February 2026, targeting approximately 1.2 crore eligible beneficiary girls aged 14 years across all 36 States and Union Territories. The single-dose Gardasil-4 vaccine is administered free of cost at government health facilities, including Ayushman Arogya Mandirs- Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centers (CHCs), Sub-District Hospitals (SDH)/District Hospitals (DHs) & Government Medical Colleges (GMCs)) across all areas including rural and underserved area. After the campaign duration of three-months, the vaccine will continue to be available on routine immunization days.

The vaccines are being administered in the presence of medical officers and the vaccination sites are linked to 24x7 Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) Management Centers for prompt management of adverse events, if any. HPV vaccination is voluntary and parental consent is mandatory before administration of vaccine. The operational guidelines for the roll out of HPV vaccination campaign have been disseminated to all States/UTs.

(c) The Government of India has implemented comprehensive prevention strategies against cervical cancer, encompassing a multi-faceted approach that includes screening, early diagnosis, and timely treatment, aiming to reduce the burden of this disease among women in the country. Complementing these initiatives, HPV vaccination, based on global evidence, has been envisaged to play a significant role in reducing cervical cancer incidence in India.

(d) Details of efficacy of approved HPV vaccines are published in Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC) which are publicly available on CDSCO website.
