

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3634
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24th MARCH, 2026**

HEALTHCARE OF WOMEN

3634. DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE:

Will the **MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken for advancing the vision of “Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar”- ensuring prevention, protection and equity at the core of women’s healthcare to help build healthy families;
- (b) whether Government has launched the nationwide Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccination Programme for girls aged fourteen years recently and if so, the number of girls likely to get the vaccine;
- (c) the category of girls excluded from Vaccination; and
- (d) whether the vaccine is 93-100 per cent effective in preventing cervical cancer caused by the HPV types it covers?

ANSWER

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

(a) The “Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar Abhiyaan (SNSPA)” campaign was conducted with the aim to strengthen healthcare services for women and children across India, with a focus on improving access, quality care, and awareness through Jan Bhagidaari.

Under the National Health Mission (NHM), the Government of India has implemented several measures as a continuous, institutionalized framework to sustain the community participation and behaviour change achieved during the campaign thereby advancing the vision of “Swasth Nari Sashakt Parivar”. The Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (AAMs) have enabled States/UTs to extend a broader package of services closer to the community, including regular screening at AAM and outreach camps at the community level. Beyond the management of illnesses, promotive and preventive health is an integral part of comprehensive primary health care that includes physical activities like marathons, Yoga, meditation etc. Moreover, 42 Health calendar days annually and ten wellness sessions monthly are celebrated at Ayushman Arogya Mandir where various activities such as health

talks, counselling for healthy diet and lifestyle, counselling & cessation activities on substance abuse, etc. are conducted to ensure wellbeing of the community.

This comprehensive approach emphasizes prevention, ensures protection through quality healthcare services, and advances equity by prioritizing the most vulnerable populations, thereby ensuring the vision of healthier women, empowered families, and stronger communities.

(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.

(c) The following are the categories of girls excluded from HPV vaccination:

- Girls with moderate or severe illness should not be administered HPV vaccine until they have recovered.
- Girls who have had an allergic reaction to a previous vaccination or are known to be allergic to yeast to avoid getting vaccinated.
- Pregnancy.
- Girls outside the target age group.
- Girls previously vaccinated: For those who have already received any HPV vaccine (Gardasil/Gardasil-9/Cervarix/Cervavac - one or more doses), their vaccination status to be updated in the U-WIN portal.

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