

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 258
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st JULY 2026**

HPV VACCINATION PROGRAMME AND CERVICAL CANCER PREVENTION

258 DR. K. LAXMAN:

SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY:

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

- (a) the status of the single-dose HPV vaccination programme launched on 28 February 2026 for girls aged 14 years;
- (b) the vaccination coverage targets under the programme and the institutional mechanism being utilised for delivery and whether WHO targets for elimination of cervical cancer would be met;
- (c) the steps taken to address vaccine hesitancy and ensure high uptake among girls in rural, tribal, and urban slum areas; and
- (d) Government's broader strategy to reduce cervical cancer incidence and mortality in the country, including screening programmes linked to the HPV vaccination drive and awareness campaigns across States and Union Territories?

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

(a) to (c) The Nationwide HPV vaccination campaign was launched on 28th February 2026 for approximately 1.2 crore eligible beneficiary girls aged 14 years across all 36 States and Union Territories. As of 15 July 2026, a total of 52,10,302 girls have received HPV vaccine across the country. The HPV vaccine is delivered free of cost at designated 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).

The extensive training on HPV vaccination has been completed for medical and paramedical staff across all 36 States/UTs in the country. The coverage data on the HPV vaccination campaign is captured through U-WIN portal, the digital vaccination platform of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Awareness generation is promoted through IEC materials such as radio jingles, posters, banners, myth-busting digital content and social media platforms to address vaccine hesitancy and ensure high vaccine uptake among girls particularly in rural, tribal, and urban slum areas.

(d) The Government of India has implemented comprehensive prevention strategies against cervical cancer, encompassing a multi-faceted approach that includes HPV vaccination, screening, early diagnosis at Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (AAMs), and treatment through Day Care Cancer Centres (DCCCs).
