

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3096  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**CANCER VACCINE**

**3096. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA:**

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

- (a) whether cancer vaccine is now available in the market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the doctors have started giving advice to the general public about this vaccine, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has approved a policy in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (c): There are several types of Cancer. There are various modalities used in the treatment of cancer, i.e. Surgery, Radiotherapy, Chemotherapy and Palliative Care often used either alone or in combination. It is the prerogative of the doctor treating the patient to advice about use of any intervention including drugs and vaccine.

There are two vaccines in use while others may be in various stages of development.

Hepatitis B vaccination is included under the Universal Immunization programme (UIP) of the Government of India. Screening of blood reduces the risk of transmission of Hepatitis B and C by blood transfusion. Therefore, blood banks mandatorily screen for Hepatitis B and C as per Drugs & Cosmetics act 1940 and Rules thereunder. Hepatitis B infection leads to cirrhosis of lever which may lead to primary lever cancer.

HPV vaccine for prevention of cancer cervix is also being used. HPV vaccine is available in market and not yet introduced in the national vaccination programme. National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI) is considering the matter.

(d) & (e): There is no separate policy regarding use of any cancer vaccine.