

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3529  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2018**

**VACCINE-RELATED ADVERSE EVENTS**

**3529. SHRI PONGULETI SRINIVASA REDDY:**

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to study the reported rise in ‘adverse events’ following vaccination in 2017 as compared to previous years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the highlights of the same?

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

(a) & (b): The reported rise in the number of Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) in 2017 compared to previous is because of better reporting as part of AEFI surveillance system strengthening measure undertaken. The 1529 serious AEFI cases reported in 2017 are far below the expected level of serious AEFI cases based on volume of vaccine doses administered through routine immunization and background rate.

The government has been strengthening the Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) Surveillance System by undertaking trainings at all levels i.e. block, district and states. States has been encouraged to report AEFI with Standard Operating Procedure. District and state AEFI committees have been formed to analyse such reported AEFI's. National AEFI secretariat has been formed and strengthened with additional manpower to encourage states/UTs for AEFI reporting and analyses of such cases.

The National AEFI Committee has been formed which consists of experts (pediatricians, pathologists, microbiologists, immunologists, pharmacologists, representatives of drug regulators, disease surveillance experts, professional bodies, etc.). This committee meets every quarter to study the status of AEFI surveillance system (including reporting of AEFI cases) in the country and recommends actions to improve AEFI surveillance. The National AEFI Committee has met four times in 2017 for causality Assessment of AEFIs cases.

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