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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5582 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH JULY, 2019

SHORTAGE OF RABIES INJECTION

5582. SHRI MARGANI BHARAT:

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

- (a) whether there is an acute shortage of rabies injection across the country and if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;
- (b) the number of deaths reported in the last two years due to shortage of rabies injection; and
- (c) the further steps being taken by the Government to supply the said injections?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a): Procurement of Anti Rabies Vaccine (ARV) is decentralized. As procurement of antirabies vaccine is done by the state governments, their availability status are accordingly maintained at the state level and no central database on availability of ARV is maintained. However, under National Rabies Control Programme (NRCP), 16 States (Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Odisha, Pondicherry, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttrakhand, Uttar Pradesh) have reported shortage of anti-rabies vaccines (ARV).
- (b): State/UT-wise deaths due to rabies, reported during the last two years in the country are given in Annexure. However, details of the deaths due to shortage of ARV are not available.
- (c): Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has taken note of the shortage of ARV reported by the States and several meetings were held in the Ministry to review the shortage of ARV reported by the States. The State Governments were requested to provide information on shortage of ARV and assistance needed from the Central Government. Drug Controller General of India was also directed to monitor the pharmaceutical firms producing ARV for ensuring regular supply of ARV to the States. States/UTs have also been advised to use Intradermal Route of ARV and ensure the availability of ARV in all health facilities for management of Animal Bite Victims.

State/UT-wise Deaths due to Rabies reported during the years 2017-2018

S. No.	State /U.T	2017	2018 (Provisional)
1	Andhra Pradesh	5	13
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
3	Assam	0	0
4	Bihar	2	0
5	Chhattisgarh	1	3
6	Goa	1	0
7	Gujarat	0	0
8	Haryana	1	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	2	1
10	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0
11	Jharkhand	8	0
12	Karnataka	15	23
13	Kerala	3	5
14	Madhya Pradesh	4	1
15	Maharashtra	9	1
16	Manipur	0	0
17	Meghalaya	0	0
18	Mizoram	0	0
19	Nagaland	2	1
20	Odisha	2	1
21	Punjab	0	0
22	Rajasthan	0	0
23	Sikkim	0	0
24	Tamil Nadu	3	0
25	Telangana	0	0
26	Tripura	3	0
27	Uttarakhand	0	0
28	Uttar Pradesh	0	0
29	West Bengal	38	46
30	A & N Islands	0	0
31	Chandigarh	0	2
32	D & N Haveli	0	0
33	Daman & Diu	0	0
34	Delhi	12	13
35	Lakshadweep	0	0*
36	Puducherry	0	0
Total		111	110

^{*}Excluding data of August, 2019