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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 138 TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND FEBRUARY, 2024

DEATH DUE TO COVID VACCINE

138. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the COVID vaccine has shrunk the heart arteries of the vaccinated people in the country leading to increase in the number of heart patients by one and a half times as per a newspaper report;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that sudden and rapid heartbeat due to the COVID vaccine is causing sudden death and its effect can be seen in youths as well and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take any special steps to overcome the said problem in the country?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL)

(a) to (c): There is a Nationwide National Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI) surveillance system under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in place that continuously monitors through COWIN app, reports of vaccine related AEFI's. Prima-facie, to date no direct signal has emerged linking Heart Attack to COVID-19 vaccines.

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has informed that there is no peer reviewed published scientific literature stating that COVID-19 vaccination leads to shrinkage of the arteries of the heart. However, in view of anecdotal reports of sudden unexplained deaths in India's apparently healthy young adults, linking to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) infection or vaccination, ICMR in collaboration with various national institutes and hospitals across the country, conducted a multicentric matched case-control study to determine the factors associated with such deaths in individuals aged 18-45 years. The results of the study show that COVID-19 vaccination did not increase the risk of unexplained sudden death among young adults in India. Past COVID-19 hospitalization, family history of sudden death and certain lifestyle behaviors increased the likelihood of unexplained sudden death in these individuals.
