

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 921
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18th SEPTEMBER, 2020**

EFFECT OF CORONA ON CHILDREN

**921. SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARASWATI:
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of patients being infected with Corona is creating new records every day;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it has been found through scientific research that Corona intrusion have less impact on children; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) & (b): The epidemic curve of any pandemic goes through an ascending, peaking and descending phase. The current phase of pandemic in India is on multiple trajectories across the urban and semi urban areas of the country. Since the country has a huge population, it is expected that there would be large number of cases every day during this phase. However, the cases and deaths per million population in India is among the lowest if one were to compare between similarly affected countries.

(c) & (d): According to WHO, the extent to which children contribute to transmission of SARS-CoV-2 remains incompletely understood. Young children seem to have lower susceptibility to infection compared to adults. Infection among children is generally mild. Current evidence also suggests that children are less likely than adults to be main transmitters of infection.

In India, children 0-17 years of age account for 8% of the total cases, which is similarly to globally reported figures. COVID-19 infection in children generally causes mild disease, and serious illness due to COVID-19 is seen only infrequently.