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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1928 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH FEBRUARY, 2021

OXFORD-ASTRA ZENECA VACCINE

1928. SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA: SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Oxford- Astra Zeneca vaccine is being sold to European Union nations at comparatively lower price that to India;

(b) if so, the reasons for the higher cost of vaccines purchased by the Indian Government;

(c) whether the Government has sought explanations or reparations from the vaccine manufacturer in light of the price difference;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government is negotiating a lower price for purchasing the same vaccine in the future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a): As per available information, the price of Oxford-Astra Zeneca vaccine across the world is in the range of about US\$ 4 to US\$ 5.25. For COVAX AMC Facility that pools the demand and supplies for 191 participating countries, including European Union nations, the price is US\$ 3 per dose to US\$ 3.15 per dose, which is largely on account of advance payment done to the Vaccine Manufacturer, much before their vaccine completed clinical trial and obtained licensure from the Regulator.

The Covishield vaccine (Oxford-Astra Zeneca vaccine) by M/s Serum Institute of India is being procured by Govt. of India at a lower price of INR 210 which is around US\$ 2.7 per dose.

(b) to (f): In view of (a) above, question does not arise.