

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2810
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH March, 2021**

NASAL VACCINE FOR COVID-19

**2810. SHRI NIHAL CHAND:
SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA:**

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to manufacture a nasal vaccine to protect against COVID-19;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the tests done and the outcome in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has adequate mechanism to carry out the vaccination across the country in a timely manner, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government is working on a scheme for prevention from this deadly disease in near future and if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) & (b): Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in consultation with Subject Expert Committee (SEC), has granted permission on 12.02.2021 to M/s Bharat Biotech International Limited for conduct of Phase-I clinical trial of Chimpanzee Adenovirus Vectedored COVID-19 Vaccine (BBV154) for Intranasal route of administration.

(c): Yes. The COVID-19 vaccination has been ongoing across the country since 16.01.2021 using the infrastructure available under Universal Immunization Programme which has further been augmented through inclusion of Private COVID-19 Vaccination Centres (CVCs) from 01.03.2021.

(d): The Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) under National Center for Disease Control, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is mandated with disease surveillance activities through establishment of surveillance units at Centre, State and District level along with a laboratory based IT enabled disease surveillance system for epidemic prone diseases to monitor disease trends and to detect and respond to outbreaks in early rising phase, so that timely and effective public health actions can be initiated in response to public health threats like COVID-19. Also under the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP), a web-enabled near-real-time electronic information system, has been launched to provide state-of-the-art single operating picture with geospatial information for managing disease outbreaks and related resources.

Further in context of COVID-19 prevention, a number of advisories and SOPs have been issued by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare wherein adherence to COVID appropriate behavior i.e. physical distancing, use of mask, hand hygiene has been recommended. Government of India has also been initiated COVID-19 vaccination initiative since 16.01.2021.