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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 917
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5TH FEBRUARY, 2021

LOGISTIC CHALLENGES FOR VACCINE DISTRIBUTION

917.   SHRIMATI NUSRAT JAHAN RUHI:
DR. AMAR SINGH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is facing many logistic challenges for vaccine distribution in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and logistics infrastructure requirements for the delivery of the COVID- 19 vaccination;

(c) whether there is a gap between existing infrastructure and actual requirements, if so, the details thereof and the estimated costs for bridging the gap; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b):   The Manufacturer on receipt of Purchase Order ships the vaccine to States/UTs as per the prescribed consignee list. The States/UTs on receipt of the vaccines from supplier, further distribute the vaccine to Regional/District and Sub-district vaccine stores utilising vaccines van provided for the purpose. These vaccines are stored in approximately 28,500 Cold Chain point across all States/UTs. All the Cold Chain points as per need are provided with appropriate cold chain equipments (like Ice Line Refrigerator (ILR), Deep Freezer (DF), Walk in Cooler (WIC), Walk in Freezer (WIF), cold boxes, ice packs and vaccine carrier etc.) and infrastructures for storing and further, distribution of vaccine to vaccination session site.

The Govt. of India has provided vaccine vans as per requirement of States for transportation of vaccines, and local level hiring of transportation services, if needed for smooth and efficient distribution of vaccines. There is a system of alternative vaccine delivery system for vaccine distribution form the last cold chain points to the session sites.

(c) & (d):   There is no gap between the existing infrastructure and actual requirements.