

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 970
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 03rd DECEMBER, 2021**

COVID VACCINE FOR CHILDREN

**970. SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA
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SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI
SHRIMATI MALA ROY**

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

- (a) whether the Government has laid a roadmap to administer COVID vaccines in children between the age group 12 to 18, if so, the details thereof and the number of children in this age group, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the details of clinical trials conducted so far for vaccination in the age group of 12 to 18 years within the country along with the outcome thereof?
- (c) the number of tests required for approval of such vaccination in the country;
- (d) whether any COVID-19 vaccine for children is likely to be developed indigenously in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has any plan to import any COVID-19 vaccine for children, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by which the vaccine is likely to be made available for children to fully vaccinate them?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (f) National Expert Group on vaccine administration for Covid (NEGVAC) and National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI) are deliberating and considering scientific evidences related to vaccination of children between the age group 12 to 17 years. The State/UT-wise number of children in the age group 12 to 17 years is given in annexure 1.

As of now, ZyCoV-D vaccine manufactured by M/s Cadila Healthcare has received the approval for Restricted Use in Emergency Setting by the National Regulator i.e. Drug

Controller General of India (DCGI) for the age group of 12 years and above based on the interim clinical data of Phase III clinical trial conducted in the country.

Following COVID-19 vaccines are under clinical trials in the country for age-group of less than 18 years:

- i. M/s Bharat Biotech is conducting Phase II/III clinical trial of COVAXIN on Healthy Volunteers aged 2 to 18 years & firm has submitted interim safety & immunogenicity data to the National Regulator.
- ii. M/s Serum institute of India is conducting Phase II/III clinical trial of Nanoparticle Vaccine (Liquid) (COVOVAX) in 920 subjects of >2 to 17 years age group.
- iii. M/s Biological E Ltd., is conducting Phase II/III clinical trial of RBD of SARS-CoV-2 gene in 624 subjects of ≥ 5 to <18 years age group.
- iv. M/s Johnson & Johnson Pvt. Ltd., is conducting Phase II/III clinical trial of Ad.26COV.2S vaccine in age group of 12-17 years (Global Clinical trial wherein India is one of the clinical trial site).

The approval of aforementioned COVID-19 vaccines will be dependent on the successful completion of clinical trials and submission of requisite data as per the requirements of New Drugs and Clinical Trials Rules, 2019 under Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

National Expert Group on vaccine administration for Covid (NEGVAC) and National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI) is mandated to take decision related to offshore Covid-19 vaccine. At present, no proposal is pending related to import of COVID-19 vaccine for use in children & adolescents age group.

State/UT-wise number of children in the age group of 12-17 years**(as per Registrar General of India (RGI) estimate)**

S. No.	State/UT	Children in age group 12-17 years
1	A&N Islands	44,000
2	Andhra Pradesh	47,05,000
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2,01,000
4	Assam	40,58,000
5	Bihar	1,67,60,000
6	Chandigarh	1,39,000
7	Chhattisgarh	32,13,000
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	71,000
9	Daman and Diu	45,000
10	Delhi	19,50,000
11	Goa	1,47,000
12	Gujarat	69,76,000
13	Haryana	30,07,000
14	Himachal Pradesh	6,91,000
15	Jammu and Kashmir	17,22,000
16	Jharkhand	47,88,000
17	Karnataka	62,34,000
18	Kerala	30,53,000
19	Ladakh	27,000
20	Lakshadweep	8,000
21	Madhya Pradesh	93,99,000
22	Maharashtra	1,19,69,000
23	Manipur	3,55,000
24	Meghalaya	4,20,000
25	Mizoram	1,33,000
26	Nagaland	2,84,000
27	Odisha	46,59,000
28	Puducherry	1,64,000
29	Punjab	27,34,000
30	Rajasthan	91,54,000
31	Sikkim	80,000
32	Tamil Nadu	65,22,000
33	Telangana	35,64,000
34	Tripura	4,19,000
35	Uttar Pradesh	2,68,82,000
36	Uttarakhand	12,23,000
37	West Bengal	94,14,000
	Total	14,52,14,000

Estimated by (RGI)