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

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2240 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29<sup>th</sup> JULY 2022

### **BOOSTER DOSE**

# 2240. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:

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

- (a) whether the Government is preparing any action plan to give booster dose of corona vaccine to people infected with COVID,
- (b) if so, the reason for applying the booster dose along with the details of effectiveness of booster dose in serious illness;
- (c) the details of countries where booster doses are being administered so far;
- (d) whether immunity starts decreasing after six months among those people who had taken both the doses of COVID vaccine, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether people are not coming forward to take booster dose, and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to ascertain the reasons for this unwillingness and to create awareness for the same?

#### ANSWER

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

(a) to (f): In case of individuals infected with COVID-19 illness, all Covid vaccination including precaution dose is to be deferred by 3 months after recovery. Precaution dose is available under the Covid vaccination programme for all eligible beneficiaries above 18 years, after an interval of 6 months from the date of administration of the  $2^{nd}$  dose. From  $15^{th}$  July, 2022 under the "Covid Vaccination Amrit Mahotsava" initiative, precaution dose is available free of cost to all beneficiaries  $\geq 18$  years of age at all Government Covid Vaccination Centers (CVCs).

National Expert Group on vaccine administration for Covid (NEGVAC), National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI) and domain knowledge experts deliberates scientific evidences, global best practices related to need and effectiveness of booster dose. A COVID-19 vaccine tracker platform is

developed to track effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines, which shows significant reduction in mortality among the vaccinated individuals.

As per information received from WHO, a total of 203 countries have included Booster/additional dose in their Covid 19 immunization schedules.

With the Launch of special initiative of "Har Ghar Dastak" & "Covid Vaccination Amrit Mahotsava" there is significant increase in the demand and administration of precaution dose across the country. As on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022, a total of 7.58 crore beneficiaries have received precaution dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

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