

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3603
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2025**

GLOBAL HEPATITIS REPORT 2024

3603 SHRI ZIA UR REHMAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Hepatitis Report, 2024 which states that India ranks second globally in Hepatitis B and C cases, with 3.5 crore infections and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the preventive steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government keeping in mind that this ranking highlights the significant health challenges posed by Hepatitis and the need for public health interventions?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SMT ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) The data of WHO Global Health Report 2024 is based on modelling and is not the actual surveillance data. As per the 2023 Seroprevalence report generated under the National Program for Surveillance of Viral Hepatitis under National Viral Hepatitis Control Program (NVHCP), National Health Mission (NHM), the seroprevalence of hepatitis B and C is found to be 0.85% (95% CI 0.85-0.86) and 0.29% (95% CI 0.29 - 0.30) respectively. Accordingly, the estimated number of persons likely to be infected with Hepatitis B and C is 1.38 crores.

(b) The Government of India (GoI) is implementing the National Viral Hepatitis Control Program (NVHCP) since 2018 under the aegis of National Health Mission (NHM), offering diagnostic and treatment services for Hepatitis C, A and E. The scope of the program was expanded to include diagnosis and management of Hepatitis B in 2019. Hepatitis B is a vaccine preventable disease and the program provides for administration of Hepatitis B birth dose vaccine & Hepatitis B Immunoglobulin to the babies born to Hepatitis B positive mothers.

The NVHCP envisages prevention of Viral Hepatitis through awareness generation and behaviour change communication. All diagnostic and treatment services are provided free of cost under NVHCP at the designated Government Health Facilities.
