

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1112
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH JULY 2025**

OPTIONAL VACCINES FOR CHILDREN

1112. SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN:

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

- (a) the manner in which the Government is addressing the knowledge gaps among Mothers regarding optional vaccines for children under five in the country especially, in the in Kheda district of Gujarat;
- (b) whether local healthcare workers are being trained to provide better information on immunization and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that information reaches rural and economically weaker sections effectively in this regard?

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

(a) & (c) The measures taken across the country by the Government, including Kheda district of Gujarat to address knowledge gaps regarding vaccines are; awareness generation through social media, mid-media, interpersonal communication (IPC) as well as social mobilization within communities by frontline health workers such as Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs), Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) and Anganwadi Workers (AWWs). To ensure wide outreach, IEC dissemination was carried out through service broadcasters such as Doordarshan using media celebrities, radio jingles and youtube podcasts. Social media platforms such as X handle , Instagram handle and facebook page were used. Localized community-level activities such as miking, posters and group meetings are also organized to ensure these messages reach rural population and economically weaker sections.

(b) Yes, the local healthcare workers are regularly trained to provide better information on immunization. Interpersonal Communication is one of the core component of immunization trainings for health workers and ASHAs.
