

(a) whether Government is aware that more than 55 per cent of children in the age group of 0-2 years do not receive comprehensive immunization in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether due to lack of facilities for immunization of children, they either die or suffer from major diseases; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Central Government, in consultation with the State Governments, to protect children from various diseases?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) As per Health Information Management System (HIMS) percentage of fully immunized children in 2010-11 reported by States is 87.2%. Evaluated coverage by Coverage Evaluation Survey (CES) 2009 was 61%.

(c) As per the available data from Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, the number of vaccine preventable diseases has shown a declining trend.

(d) The following steps have been taken to achieve universal immunization :

The Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) is funded by Government of India. Besides supply of the required vaccines, support is provided for the following:

- Alternate vaccine delivery for supply of vaccine from the last storage point to the villages and outreach session sites.
- Support for hiring vaccinators in urban slums and underserved areas to ensure that planned immunization sessions are held.
- Financial incentives to more than 8 lakh ASHAs who mobilize children for immunization sessions.
- Mobility Support to state and districts to facilitate supportive supervision.
- Printing of monitoring tools, preparation of micro-plans, quarterly review meetings, training of health workers and for safe injection waste disposal.
- Cold chain maintenance and for any other State specific requirements.

In addition, Government of India supplies cold chain equipments required for immunization programme to States and UTs.

Vigilance and monitoring committees under MGNREGS

*292. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry had issued instructions from time to time and appointed Members of Parliament on the State level vigilance and monitoring committees under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);

(b) whether the Ministry is aware that the State Government of Gujarat has not arranged any such meeting of the vigilance and monitoring committee from 2006 to March 2011; and

(c) if so, the details of action being taken by the Ministry in such matters where State Governments could not arrange quarterly meetings of the vigilance and monitoring committees?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir. However, the Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (V&MCs) have been constituted for monitoring the implementation of all the programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development and not restricted to the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

(b) The Government of Gujarat have informed that meetings of the State level V&MC have been held on 21.8.2008 and 01.08.2011.

(c) The guidelines of the V&MC have been revised with a view to facilitate more meetings and also to make them more effective. The Member Secretary of the V&MC has now been made personally responsible for convening meetings as frequently as envisaged in the guidelines. The Chief Ministers of all States have been addressed emphasizing the need for regular meetings. Chief Secretaries of all States have been advised to ensure that the Member Secretary convenes meetings of V&MC regularly. The Member Secretaries of all V&MCs have also been individually advised to convene the meetings.

Curtailment in SKO allocation to Gujarat

*293. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has curtailed by 32 per cent the allocation quota for PDS Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) for Gujarat from June, 2011 without any specific reasons, against the monthly allocation of 76710 ltrs. till May, 2011;