

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3155
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23RD MARCH, 2021**

SURGE IN MEASLES CASES AMONG INFANTS

3155 SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that a large number of infants have not received the vaccine against measles while the contagious viral disease surged worldwide in 2019
- (b) if so, the details thereof
- (c) whether Government has taken any further steps to control measles and prevent outbreaks and deaths among infants and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

- (a) & (b): Yes, Government is aware that some of the infants might not have received the vaccine against Measles. As per HMIS (2019-20) the coverage of Measles containing Vaccine 1st dose (MCV-1) & 2nd dose (MCV-2) stands at 93.9% and 85.6 % respectively.
- (c) & (d): The following steps have been taken by Government to control measles & prevent outbreaks & deaths among infants :
 1. Under routine immunization two doses of Measles containing vaccine (at 9 - 12 & 16 - 24 months of age of child) are given across the country.
 2. Immunization intensification drives like Mission Indradhanush (MI), Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) are conducted from time to time to improve immunization coverage including Measles containing vaccine.
 3. Measles-Rubella (MR) vaccination campaign has been conducted in which around 32.4 crore children in age group of 9 months to less than 15 years across 34 states/UTs were vaccinated with coverage of 98.08% to rapidly build population immunity.
 4. Country is also strengthening Measles-Rubella (MR) surveillance Program by transitioning to modified case-based surveillance where every suspected case is investigated and confirmed. This has helped in increasing the sensitivity by detecting of more measles cases.