

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.909
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9TH FEBRUARY, 2021**

SIDE EFFECTS OF COVID-19 VACCINE

909 SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:

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

- (a) whether Government has assessed the reports of side effects of COVID-19 vaccine from different parts of the country
- (b) if so, whether Government has issued any guidelines for availing vaccination, the details thereof
- (c) whether Government has made any impact analysis of COVID-19 vaccine after receiving the vaccination
- (d) the details of actions taken by Government to overcome the hesitancy to receive vaccination among the citizens including front-line health workers and
- (e) whether Government is ready to allow the State Governments to lay out State specific order of beneficiaries of vaccination, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a): Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI) of COVID-19 vaccines are monitored through a well-structured and robust AEFI surveillance system. The surveillance system includes District, State and National level AEFI committees.
- (b): COVID-19 Vaccines Operational Guidelines on planning and implementation of vaccination roll-out have been shared with all States/UTs.
- (c): COVID-19 vaccination of Health Care Workers and Front Line Workers is ongoing and the vaccination coverage along with AEFIs are being monitored regularly at Block, District, State and National level.

(d): COVID-19 Vaccines Communication Strategy has been prepared to raise awareness about the COVID-19 vaccines and address misinformation against vaccination.

The strategy aims to promptly disseminate factual information about the vaccines and the vaccination process. This is being done through multimedia platforms (print/electronic/social media) and engagement of various stakeholders, community leaders and influencers to reach out to the last mile.

(e): National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 (NEGVAC) provides guidance on all aspects of COVID-19 vaccination including prioritization of population groups, procurement and inventory management, vaccine selection, vaccine delivery and tracking mechanism etc.

NEGVAC has prioritized Health Care Workers and Front Line Workers during the initial phase of COVID-19 vaccination followed by prioritized population groups of persons aged 50 years and above, and those aged less than 50 years with comorbidities.