

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4794
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2025**

OUTBREAK OF HEPATITIS-C IN UTTARAKHAND

†4794. **SHRI TRIVENDRA SINGH RAWAT:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of an outbreak of Hepatitis-C in Gadhrona village in Uttarakhand where more than 100 cases have been reported so far and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any investigation so far to identify the possible causes of this outbreak and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is waterborne or related to medical negligence and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide immediate medical aid and necessary medicines to the affected people; and
- (e) whether the Government is formulating any specific plans to improve the quality of water supply and to conduct awareness campaigns to prevent such outbreaks in future and if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) 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 free diagnostic and treatment services for Hepatitis C, A and E.

Health is a state subject. Funds are allocated to the programme activities under National Health Mission (NHM) on the basis of State/UT specific Programme Implementation Plans and States/UTs are required to utilize funds as per their need, priority and on the basis of their absorption capacity. Programme funds are allocated on lump sum basis under the flexible pool of NHM to offer flexibility to the States/UTs.

Hepatitis C virus infection is not water borne neither is related to any medical negligence. It is a blood borne virus and most infection occur through exposure to infected blood and blood products, from unsafe injection practices, injection drug use and sexual relationship with the infected partners leading to exposure to the disease.

The State Government of Uttarakhand have reported that there are existing 16 hepatitis C cases under treatment from SDH Roorkee and during the camp in Gram Gadhrona, 24 cases came

out to be confirmed for Hepatitis C through viral load.

Public awareness campaign have been conducted by the health department for prevention of Hepatitis C, wherein IEC has been made available to the public about Hepatitis C . Following measures have also been taken :-

1. The doctors of the town of village Gadhrona have also been informed to always use new syringes.
2. Barbers of the area have been informed to always use new blades.
3. Public to be careful regarding body tattoo and piercing.
4. Prevention of sexual relationship with infected partners.
