

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3116
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2023**

CASES OF FLU IN THE COUNTRY

3116. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

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

- (a) the number of H3N2 cases, State-wise and district-wise;
- (b) the number of such cases requiring ICU care;
- (c) the status of preparedness for this viral infection; and
- (d) whether any long term studies have been conducted on the flu-shot being advised as a measure of protection against the virus?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (d):

As per information provided by States/UTs, total 1317 cases of H3N2 have been reported from 1st January 2023 to 21st March 2023. State/UTs-wise details is at Annexure.

As per ICMR, amongst the 510 cases of H3N2 reported in pan –India ILI/SARI surveillance since last two months ,19 cases of H3N2 needed ICU admission.

Union Health Ministry monitors the situation and has taken several steps to support states for management of influenza cases including H3N2 which includes:

- Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has issued an Advisory requested all States/UTs to take necessary steps including:
 - Closely follow the trend of Influenza-like illness/Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (ILI/SARI) in respective areas, monitor the proportion of SARI

cases among all ILI& SARI cases and refer sufficient number of samples for testing for Influenza, SARS-CoV-2 etc.

- Raise community awareness regarding adherence to respiratory and hand hygiene (like covering one's mouth and nose with a tissue/elbow when coughing or sneezing, avoiding spitting in public places, preferably use of mask in crowded environments, frequent hand wash etc.), promoting early reporting of symptoms, and limiting contact, if suffering from respiratory illness.
- Widely disseminate technical guidelines for Seasonal Influenza (<https://main.mohfw.gov.in/basicpage/technical-guidelines>), COVID-19 (<https://mohfw.gov.in>) etc. which have also been made available on the website of this Ministry
- Implement 'Operational Guidelines for Revised Surveillance Strategy in Context of COVID-19' which provides for integrated surveillance of respiratory pathogens presenting as cases of ILI/SARI available at: <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/OperationalGuidelinesforRevisedSurveillanceStrategyincontextofCOVID-19.pdf>.
- Take stock of hospital preparedness including drugs, medical equipment, capacity building of human resource on existing guidelines as well as vaccination coverage against COVID-19 and Influenza.

To ensure adequate infrastructure at district level, Government of India provides financial assistance to all States/UTs under National Health Mission for strengthening public health care systems including setting up new health facilities and infrastructure upgradation under various schemes.

As reported by ICMR, Influenza working group of the **National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization** is reviewing the seasonal influenza vaccination data.

Annexure

S. No.	States/UTs	Cases
1	Andaman & Nicobar	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	12
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4	Assam	1
5	Bihar	1
6	Chandigarh	2
7	Chhattisgarh	3
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0
9	Daman & Diu	0
10	Delhi	370
11	Goa	2
12	Gujarat	12
13	Haryana	14
14	Himachal Pradesh	2
15	Jammu & Kashmir	6
16	Jharkhand	5
17	Karnataka	134
18	Kerala	57
19	Lakshadweep	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	2
21	Maharashtra	184
22	Manipur	0
23	Meghalaya	0
24	Mizoram	0
25	Nagaland	0
26	Odisha	28
27	Puducherry	121
28	Punjab	27
29	Rajasthan	222
30	Sikkim	0
31	Tamil Nadu	62
32	Telangana	0
33	Tripura	4
34	Uttarakhand	7
35	Uttar Pradesh	19
36	West Bengal	20