

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-127
(FOR ANSWER ON-19.07.2021)

“FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPING COVID VACCINE”

127. SHRI ANTO ANTONY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has provided financial assistance to any firm for developing Covid-19 vaccination;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the amount so far disbursed to such firms;
- (c) whether the Government has any statistics regarding the amount earmarked for covid-19 vaccination purpose;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has decided to provide free vaccination for all; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the estimated cost of vaccination for all?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science & Technology, through its Public Sector Undertaking, the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), has provided financial support to public research institutes and industry for COVID-19 Vaccine Development. Financial support was provided to nearly 09 private industries for the development of vaccines for COVID-19, whereby an amount of Rs.489 Cr., has been allocated and an amount of Rs. 148 Cr. has been disbursed.

(c) and (d) In the Union Budget 2021-22, an Outlay of Rs 35,000 crore has been made towards COVID-19 vaccination.

(e) and (f) Yes, all citizens are entitled to free vaccination. In financial year 2021-22, a provision of Rs. 35, 000 Cr has been made for Covid-19 vaccination. Apart from this, if required, the Government has also committed to provide additional funds for this as announced in para number 38 of the Budget Speech of Hon'ble FM for the financial year 2021-22.

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