

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2656
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2000
ILLEGAL ABORTION
A.K. PREMAJAM

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

- (a) whether Indian Council of Medical Research has conducted any study on illegal abortions in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the rate of illegal abortions during the last three years, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) Indian Council of Medical Research conducted a study during July, 1983 - March, 1985 in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Haryana and Tamil Nadu, in order to assess the magnitude of illegal abortions performed in the rural areas. The study revealed that the extent of illegal abortion was 13.3 per 1000 pregnancies and legal abortion was 6.1 per 1000 pregnancies. The majority of the abortions were performed using indigenous methods. It was also revealed that the awareness about the MTP services was low in the community and dissemination of information through the available media was extremely poor.

(c) The rate of illegal abortions during last three years is not available. However the number of abortions performed in institutions approved for MTP during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 was 538075, 512823 and 666882 respectively.