

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:736

ANSWERED ON:21.11.2007

DECLINE IN SEX RATIO

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Sharma Shri Madan Lal

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

- (a) whether there has been a decline in the sex ratio in the past five years as reported in the newspaper The Hindu dated October 12, 2007;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether under six age groups, the sex ratio has gone down further;
- (d) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Union Government to improve the sex ratio?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS)

(a) to (d) The Sex Ratio(SR) (number of females per thousand males) has increased from 927 to 933 from 1991 to 2001. However, the Child Sex Ratio (CSR) has declined from 945 to 927 during the same period. State-wise SR and CSR is annexed.

(e) The Government has taken action on strengthening the Pre-Conception & Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act (PC & PNDT Act) as well as creating awareness on the issue through various IEC mechanisms. Some of the steps taken by the government to improve the Sex Ratio in the Country are constitution of the National Inspection & Monitoring Committee for undertaking field visits periodically across the country, constitution of the National Support & Monitoring Cell for effective implementation of the Act, training of Judiciary, publication of Annual Reports. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), On-Line Complaint facility on the Ministry's Website, organizing sensitization workshops/ seminars, launching of 'Save the Girl Child' campaign, seeking cooperation from the NGOs/religious leaders, etc. Further, under the National Rural Health Mission, Auxiliary Nursing Midwife (ANM) and Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) are being sensitized on the issue. Also, funds have been provided to all States/UTs under the Rural Child Health programme for implementation of the Act and related activities.