

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1071

ANSWERED ON:30.07.2010

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

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

- (a) whether the infant mortality rate in India is one of the highest in comparison to the other countries as reported in various medical journals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the infant mortality rate has been on the rise in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including urban and rural area-wise; and
- (e) the future strategies formulated by the Government to reduce the infant mortality rate in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) & (b) As per the UNICEF's Report entitled "State of World's Children 2009", India is ranked at 49th in the descending order of Under Five Mortality Rate.

(c) & (d) As per the Sample Registration System (SRS), the Infant Mortality Rate has been declining during the last three years and has come down from 57 per 1000 live births in 2006 to 53 per 1000 live births in 2008. The State-wise urban and rural area-wise details are annexed.

(e) The Reproductive and Child Health programme (RCH) II under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), comprehensively integrates interventions that improve child health and addresses factors contributing to morbidity and mortality.

The key components of child health programme which help reduce child morbidity and mortality are as follows:

Establishment of Special Newborn Care Units, Newborn Stabilization Units and Newborn Care Corners at health facilities.

Integrated management of neonatal and childhood illnesses (IMNCI) and Pre-Service Integrated management of neonatal and childhood illnesses (IMNCI)

Facility Based Integrated management of neonatal and childhood illnesses (IMNCI).

Early detection and appropriate management of Diarrhoeal disease

Early detection and appropriate management of Acute Respiratory Infections and other infections

Navjaat Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (NSSK), a programme for Basic newborn care and resuscitation

Infant and young child feeding

Immunization

Vitamin A supplementation and Iron and Folic Acid supplementation.