

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1089

ANSWERED ON:30.07.2010

DECLINE IN SEX RATIO

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

(a) whether the lack of awareness among general public and improper implementation of the schemes launched by the Government to save girl child is resulting into the decline in the sex-ratio;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of female foeticide cases brought to the notices/detected by the Government during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to amend the Pre-conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 (PC&PNDT Act, 1994) to increase the fine as well as the duration of imprisonment against those found involved in female foeticide; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRVEDI)

(a) & (b) As per the Sample Registration System (SRS) data of Registrar General of India, the sex ratio at birth of the country has moved from 892 in 2004-2006 to 901 in 2005-2007 to 904 in 2006-2008. States wise details are Annexure-I.

Lack of awareness among general public and improper implementation of the schemes, apart from son preference, neglect of the girl child resulting in higher mortality at younger age, female infanticide, female foeticide, higher maternal mortality and male bias in enumeration of population are the main reason for the poor sex-ratio.

(c) State/UT wise details of incidence of foeticide reported during the years 2006-08 are enclosed at Annexure-II. State/UT wise provisional figures of cases registered under foeticide during 2009 and 2010, based on Monthly Crime Statistics are enclosed at Annexure -III.(d) & (e) Decision regarding amendment of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostics Techniques (PC&PNDT) Act, 1994 has not been taken so far.