

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:913

ANSWERED ON:12.11.2010

PERFORMANCE OF POPULATION CONTROL MEASURES

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

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the results of various measures adopted so far to control the population in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the population control programme has resulted into skewed sex ratio in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed by the Government for the promotion of birth of girl child and incentives given by the Government to the families of the girl child?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Government assesses the various measures adopted to control the population in the country from time to time. Accordingly, the Government has introduced new and improved measures for controlling the population. Some of the steps taken by the Government are mentioned as under:

A National Population Policy was formulated in 2000 with clearly articulated objectives, strategic themes and operational strategies.

The National Commission on Population was also set up in 2000 to monitor and give directions for the implementation of the National Population Policy, to meet the goals set out in the Policy, and to promote synergy between demographic, educational, environmental and developmental programmes so as to hasten population stabilisation.

Population stabilization is also one of the key objectives of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) launched in April, 2005. It aims at giving a major thrust to population stabilization.

(c) & (d): The Family Welfare Programme in India is voluntary in nature, which enables a couple to adopt the family planning methods, best suited to them according to their choice, without any compulsion or targets. There is no evidence to establish any correlation between population control programmes and skewed sex ratio in the country.

(e): Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has no specific scheme to incentivize the birth of girl child.