

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1783

ANSWERED ON:19.11.2010

CHILD MORTALITY

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

- (a) the child mortality rate of India;
- (b) whether as per a global report titled 'A Fair Chance at Life' by a Non- Governmental Organisation (NGO) the children from the poor communities are thrice vulnerable to die before they reach the age of 5 than those from high income groups;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Union Government to reduce the child mortality gap between the richest and poorest families?

Answer

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

(a) As per the Sample Registration system 2008, the under five mortality rate is 69 per thousand live births and infant mortality rate is 53 per thousand live births.

(b) & (c) As per the report "A Fair Chance at Life" by an Non Government Organisation (NGO), the children from the poorer community are more vulnerable to die before attaining the age of 5 years. The child mortality in India for the poorest quintile has been reported as almost three times higher than for the richest quintile. While there is an average reduction in child mortality rate of nearly 3 % per year across countries, there is however, an accompanied average rise in the ratio of child mortality between the richest and the poorest of 0.5 %.

(d) The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) seeks to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the rural population, especially the vulnerable section with special focus on 18 States, including the erstwhile 8 Empowered Action Group (EAG) States, the north-Eastern States, Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh.

The Emphasis is on strengthening rural health infrastructure including physical infrastructure, manpower and other facilities.

Under the NRHM the Reproductive and Child Health Programme (RCH) II 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 (FIMNCI).

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.

Establishment of Nutritional Rehabilitation Centres

