

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2672

ANSWERED ON:11.03.2011

DECLINE IN SEX RATIO

Badal Harsimrat Kaur;Bais Shri Ramesh;Choudhry Smt. Shruti;Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao;Patil Shri A.T. Nana;Singh Smt. Meena

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

- (a) the sex-ratio in rural and urban areas in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether there has been an alarming decline in the sex-ratio in the country during the last three years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (d) the action taken by the Government to arrest the trend;
- (e) the details of programmes/schemes launched by the Government to create awareness among the people in this regard and success achieved by the said programmes and schemes; and
- (f) the concrete steps taken by the Government to improve the sex-ratio in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Sex ratio in India has declined from 972 in 1901 to 927 as per the 1991 census. The sex ratio has since gone upto 933 in 2001. In rural, it is 946, for urban it is 900. State wise details are annexed.

(d) to (f) To improve the sex ratio in the country, Government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy entailing schemes and programmes and awareness generation/ advocacy measures. Some of these are outlined below:

i. Strengthening the implementation of the PC & PNDT Act 1994 and Rules therein, random inspections of ultrasound clinics by the National Inspection and Monitoring Committee (NIMC), awareness generation through various IEC activities, sensitization of stake holders including judiciary and public prosecutors, holding of workshops/seminars and community awareness through auxiliary Nursing Midwife (ANM) and Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA), as well as facility for on-line filing of Form 'F' by clinics.

ii. A number of States are implementing schemes to incentivise the birth of a girl child and encourage families to place a premium on her education and development through conditional cash transfer schemes. Some of these are the Laadli Scheme of Delhi Govt., Mukhya Mantri Kanya Suraksha Yojana of Bihar Govt, Bhagyalakshmi Scheme of Karnataka, Ladli Lakshmi Yojana of MP, Balika Samridhi Yojana of Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh, Balri Rakshak Yojana in Punjab, Kanyadan scheme of Madhya Pradesh and Laadli scheme of Haryana.

Ministry of Women and Child Development, is implementing the scheme of 'Dhanalakshmi' as a pilot programme to provide a set of staggered financial incentives for families to encourage them to retain the girl child.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development declared January 24th as a National Girl Child Day to bring to centre-stage the problems faced by the girl child and create national awareness.