

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:755

ANSWERED ON:25.11.2011

DECLINE IN SEX RATIO

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

- (a) the ratio of male and female in rural and urban areas of the country during each of the last three years and the current year State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has taken note of provisional data of 2011 Census and data quoted by the United Nations (UN) `World Population Prospects, 2008` regarding declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR);
- (c) if so, the details alongwith the facts in this regard;
- (d) the number of cases including female foeticide reported in violation of the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 from various States/ Union Territories during the last three years and the current year State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to make the law more effective in order to stop the practice of female foeticide and improve the sex ratio in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a): Information on the ratio of male and female in rural and urban areas of the country is available from the Census Operations which are conducted every ten years.

As per 2001 and 2011 census (provisional) data , State/UT wise sex ratio and child sex ratio in rural and urban areas are at Annexure A & B respectively.

(b) & (c): Yes. As per the 2011 Census (provisional), the sex ratio has increased from 933 in 2001 to 940 in 2011. However, the child sex ratio (0-6 years) has shown a decline from 927 in 2001 to 914 in 2011.

As per the United Nations World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision, there are 106.8 males per 100 females in India.

(d): The number of cases reported for violations of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 during last three years and in the current year is at Annexure C.

(e): The Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, was enacted by the Government of India, and further amended in 2003, with the objective of prohibiting sex selection before or after conception, regulation of Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques and prevention of their misuse for sex determination leading to female foeticide.

The recent initiatives undertaken by Government of India to strengthen effective implementation of the Act include the following:

Rule 11 (2) of the PC & PNDT Rules, 1996 has been amended to provide for confiscation of unregistered machines and further punishment of organizations which fail to register themselves under the Act.

The National Inspection and monitoring Committee has been reconstituted and apart from inspections, further empowered to oversee follow-up action by Appropriate Authorities against organizations found guilty of violations under the Act during inspections.

Operational guidelines for PNDT-NGO Grant in Aid Scheme have been revised to ensure targeted use of resources for effective implementation of the Act.

States have been asked during appraisal of the annual Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) to take advantage of funding available under NRHM for strengthening infrastructure and augmentation of human resources required for effective implementation of the PC & PNDT Act.