GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2217 ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012 REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether nearly twenty five percent of children born in India are not registered at birth;
- (b) if so, whether the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) in its 2012 report has also revealed that only fifty nine percent of births in urban India and thirty five per cent in rural areas are registered;
- (c) if so, whether the Compulsory Registration of Births and Deaths Act has completely failed to check such unregistered births; and
- (d) if so, the latest strategy to be adopted to ensure that every citizen at the time of births or after deaths is properly registered?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a): Yes, Madam. Approximately 25 per cent of the births are not being registered in India. The level of registration of birth in India is 74.5 and 77.5 per cent respectively for the year 2007 and 2008.
- (b): Yes, Madam. UNICEF Report on "The State of the world's Children, 2012" reveals that 59% of the birth in urban India and 35% in rural India are registered.
- (c): No, Madam. The level of registration of birth in India is increasing year by year and the level of registration of births has increased to 77.5 percent in 2008 from 56.2 percent in 2000.
- (d): The measures being taken to improve the registration system in India are:
- # Office or RGI has intensified publicity campaigns on the need and importance of registration of births and deaths through electronic and print- media at the central level.
- # Under the scheme of central assistance to States, the financial assistance is provided to States/UTs for -
- (i) Publicity and advertisement through Information Education Communication (IEC) activities;
- (ii) Training of Registration Functionaries &
- (iii) Providing infrastructural support in terms of staff, computers, etc.
- # Launched National campaign for birth registration.
- # Instructions have been issued to ensure cent per cent registration of institutional events to all States/UTs.