

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2980  
ANSWERED ON:30.03.2012  
FEMALE INFANT MORTALITY  
Ray Shri Rudramadhab

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study on female infant mortality in the country;
- (b) if so, the findings of the study; and
- (c) the details of the campaign launched against pre-natal sex determination tests in backward States and other parts of the country including Odisha?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a)&(b) No such study has been conducted. However, as per SRS 2010 report published by Registrar General of India, female infant mortality rate is 49 per 1000 live births as against male infant mortality rate of 46 per 1000 live births in India.

(c) The Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 as amended in 2003, prohibits sex selection before or after conception and regulates the misuse of medical diagnostic techniques for the purpose of sex determination

The steps taken by Government of India to curb sex determination through effective implementation of the PC & PNDT Act are as mentioned below:

Central Supervisory Board (CSB) under the PNDT Act has been reconstituted. The 17th and 18th meetings of CSB have been held at an interval of six months on 4th June, 2011 and 14th January 2012.

Inspections by the National Inspection and Monitoring Committee have been scaled up. NIMC 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.

Government of India has notified important amendments in rules under the Act, including :-

Amendment to Rule 11 (2) of the PC & PNDT Rules, 1996 to provide for confiscation of unregistered machines and further punishment under the Act.

Amendment to regulate the use of portable ultrasound equipment and services offered by mobile genetic clinics.

Operational guidelines for Grant in Aid to Non-Governmental Organizations have been revised to ensure targeted use of resources for awareness generation of the Act.

States have been asked 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.