

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4762
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2012
NEO NATAL HEALTH CARE UNDER NRHM
Mishra Shri Govind Prasad

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

- (a) whether the Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) workers provide neonatal healthcare under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the neo-natal mortality rate is still high despite implementation of the said scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Registrar-General has released any data in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) Yes. Under National Rural Health Mission, Home Based Newborn Care intervention is implemented through ASHA workers. The ASHA workers undertake series of at least 6 home visits aimed at improving community practices, early identification of danger signs and prompt referral of newborn babies.
- (c) & (d) Out of about 8.61 lakh ASHAs, nearly 1.57 lakh ASHAs have been trained in Home Based Newborn Care and home visits have started in 4 States. It is too early to measure the impact of ASHAs home visits on the neo-natal mortality rate.
- (e) & (f) The Registrar General of India has not released any data of neonatal mortality of the period post the implementation of Home Based Newborn Care by ASHAs.