

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1291
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012
NOTIFICATION ON RADIOLOGISTS
Tagore Shri Manicka

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

- (a) whether the Government has issued a notification recently restricting Radiologists from visiting not more than two clinics within a district and limiting their working hours per day;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons and motive for issue of such a notification;
- (d) whether the doctors' association has objected to this notification; and
- (e) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) The Government of India has notified the amendment to Rule 3 under the PC & PNDT Act, vide Notification G.S.R (No.) 418 (E) dated 4th June 2012, restricting each medical practitioner, qualified under the Act to conduct ultrasonography in a genetic clinic/ultrasound clinic/imaging centre, to be registered with a maximum of two such clinics/centers within a district. The consulting hours for such medical practitioner shall be clearly specified by each clinic/center.

(c) to (e) The high prevalence of female foeticide and gender discrimination across States/UTs is borne out from the Census figures of 2001 and 2011 which show a continuous decline in child sex ratio from 927 in 2001 to 914 in 2011. The sex ratio at birth (SRB) of 905 in 2008-10 (as per Sample Registration System of the Registrar General of India), is also well below the expected Sex Ratio at birth.

The amendment is intended to strengthen the hands of Appropriate Authorities for effective monitoring and implementation of the PC & PNDT Act through regulating proxy use of ultrasound procedures and its misuse for sex selection by way of multiple registrations of doctors at such clinics/hospitals etc.

The said Notification has been challenged in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and Bombay and is sub-judice.