

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2179
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2012
REGISTRATION OF CHILD BIRTH
Tewari Shri Manish

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the United Nations International Children's Education Fund's (UNICEF's) World Report 2012 which states that out of 26.2 million children born in India every year, more than 7.6 million reportedly go unregistered;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps initiated by the Government to ease the birth registration process in the country;
- (d) whether any awareness programmes have been initiated by the Government to educate people with the regard to child birth registration;
- (e) if so, the details thereof urban and rural area-wise during the last three years;and
- (f) whether the Government also proposes to initiate a house to house drive similar to polio immunisation to ensure 100 per cent birth registration by fixing responsibility frontline people like anganwadi workers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) & (b): As per the UNICEF Report - 'THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN 2012' annual estimated number of live births in India were about 27.17 million in 2010, of which 41 percent were registered. However, as per the information received from the Office of the Registrar General of India (ORGI), out of the total 26.2 million estimated births, 6.7 million births went unregistered during 2007. The level of registration of births in India which was 74.5 percent in 2007 has increased to 79.7 percent in 2009.

(c) to (e): The measures taken by the ORGI to improve the system of registration include intensified publicity campaigns on the need and importance of registration of births and deaths through various print and electronic media like Doordarshan, private television channels, All India Radio, newspapers etc; training of staff, infrastructural support in terms of staff and computers; directions to the States/UTs to open registration centres in all Community Health Centres / Primary Health Centres and other medical institutions; regularly holding meetings of Inter-Departmental and district level Coordination Committees etc. For spreading awareness about the importance of birth registration, both in rural and urban areas of the country, various above-cited publicity measures are taken. The expenditure incurred on such measures by the ORGI during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 was Rs. 9.80 Crore, Rs 11.63 Crore and Rs. 17.04 Crore respectively.

(f): In some States, Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) and Anganwadi workers are nominated as Sub-Registrars. In majority of the States, these functionaries have been declared as the notifiers who are responsible for reporting the events occurring in their area of jurisdiction to the concerned Registrar of Births and Deaths.