

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2205  
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2012  
FEMALE FOETICIDES  
Nirupam Shri Sanjay Brijkishorilal

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that in a recent report by the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) which states that Maharashtra has the highest number of abandoned newborns in the country and is placed 6th in cases of infanticide and foeticide;
- (b) if so, the details of various programmes undertaken by the Government to curb these kinds of crimes in Maharashtra;
- (c) the amount allocated and utilised by Maharashtra under these schemes during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (d) the amount earmarked for Mumbai under these schemes;
- (e) whether the Government is aware that illegal abortions and illegal pregnancy tests are still carried out in Indian cities and rural areas; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government in this direction?

**Answer**

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

(a) As per the 'Crime In India 2011' report published by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), 189 cases of exposure and abandonment of children have been reported in Maharashtra. As per information furnished by the NCRB, in 2011, the state is placed fifth and sixth with regard to foeticide and infanticide respectively.

(b) & (c) Details of programmes undertaken by the State Government, including amount allocated and utilised are annexed.

(d) No amount is separately earmarked for Mumbai.

(e) & (f) No such data is available. The Government has intensified the drive against female foeticide through effective implementation of the PC & PNDT Act as mentioned below:

# Central Supervisory Board has been reconstituted and regular meetings are being held. The board reviewed progress made by the States in respect of the implementation of the Act, approved amendments in the Rules and strategies to meet the challenges.

# Important amendments to the PC & PNDT Rules have been notified to regulate the misuse of portable ultrasound equipment and to provide for confiscation of unregistered machines and further punishment under the Act, enhancement in registration fees of ultrasound diagnostic facilities, restrictions on multiple registrations of doctors with clinics/facilities etc.

# A Ministerial meeting was held under the Chairpersonship of Hon. HFM with Health Ministers of States on 28th September, 2011 at New Delhi to focus sharply on those areas where child sex ratio is skewed against the girl child.

# 17 states with the most skewed child sex ratio have been identified for concerted attention. A meeting of Health Secretaries of these States was first convened on 20th April 2011, followed by several review meetings.

# 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.

# Grant in Aid to Non-Governmental Organizations is provided for awareness generation of the declining child sex ratio and implementation of PC & PNDT 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.

# States have been advised to focus on districts/blocks/villages with low Child Sex Ratio to ascertain the causes, plan appropriate BCC campaigns and effectively implement provisions of the PC & PNDT Act.

