

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3343
ANSWERED ON:31.08.2012
INFERTILITY CASES
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

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

- (a) whether a study conducted by a Mumbai based International Research Institute has revealed that the number of childless couples in India has increase fifty per cent from 1981 to 2001;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any Indian Doctor`s Association has urged the Government to include the infertility in family planning policies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the advantages of such inclusion to the childless couples; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Government to keep a check on the rise of infertility cases?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Indian Council of Medical Research is aware of a study conducted by the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), entitled "Childlessness and Its Consequences in India: Levels, Patterns and Differentials" by Department of Public Health and Mortality Studies, IIPS, Mumbai.

As per the report, 13% of ever-married Indian women aged 15-49 were childless in 1981, which increased to nearly 16% in 2001.

(c) & (d) No such representation has been received.

(e): ICMR's institute at National Institute for Research in Reproductive Health (NIRRH), Mumbai has developed guidelines titled "Prevention and Management of Infertility in the Primary Health Care System" which covers not only management of an infertile couple but also include measures to optimize fertility and prevent infertility. The guidelines include sections on General aspects of infertility, Clinical management of infertility and also Prevention and Management of Infertility in the Primary Health Care System. The guidelines are intended to be useful for health care providers in the public health system at the level of primary health care including sub-centers, primary health centers, urban health posts and community health centers.