

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4462
ANSWERED ON:07.09.2012
CREATING AWARENESS ON SEX RATIO
Katoch Smt. Chandresh Kumari

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

- (a) whether the Government has introduced a scheme in 2007 towards release of funds to Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Members for creating awareness on declining sex ratio issue;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and funds released, State/UT-wise since inception till date; and
- (c) the other steps taken by the Government for creating awareness regarding declining sex ratio in the country?

Answer

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

(a) Government has released Rs. 5.00 lakhs in 2007, to each Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha) in 7 high focus States of Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Chandigarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan, for creating awareness on the issue of declining sex ratio.

(b) State wise details of funds released are annexed.

(c) The Government has intensified awareness generation on the issue of declining sex ratio as per details mentioned below:

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

A scheme providing Grant in Aid to Non-Governmental Organizations is in operation for awareness generation on the declining child sex ratio and implementation of Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994.

States have been asked to take advantage of funds 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 Behaviour Change Communication campaigns and effectively implement provisions of the PC & PNDT Act.

In Punjab and J& K, religious leaders have been involved in the campaign to denounce female foeticide.

Awards have been instituted in Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh for Panchayat/village with the best sex ratio.

Capacity building and sensitisation of Judiciary, Appropriate Authorities have been undertaken in the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, U.P., A.P etc.