

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2324  
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2012  
REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS  
Ramasubbu Shri S.

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

- (a) whether a huge percentage of registration of births and deaths in the country are not reported particularly in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has issued any direction to all the States to ensure cent percent registration of births and deaths;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the reaction of the State Governments in this regard; and
- (f) the other steps taken/being taken by the Union Government to ensure cent percent registration of births and deaths in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a) & (b) As per the information received from the Office of Registrar General, India (ORGI), Ministry of Home Affairs, 81% of the monthly returns of births and deaths registered were reported by the registration units in 2009. The reporting was 81% in rural areas and 86% in urban areas. Number of registration unit and reporting percentage State/UT-wise is Annexed.

Main reasons for low reporting in the poorly reporting States include:

# Lack of coordination among various departments engaged in Civil Registration System (CRS) work in States.

# Low importance given to registration work by the State Government.

# Lack of procedural knowledge among the registration functionaries about the provisions of Act and Rules.

# Shortage of manpower at registration offices.

(c) & (d) In order to ensure cent percent registration of births and deaths, ORGI has been issuing directions to the States /UTs from time to time for regular submission of monthly returns in the prescribed format. Further, in order to ensure the reporting of all institutional events, an initiative has been taken to create a data base of all medical institutions where births and deaths take place falling under the jurisdiction of each registrar. A training manual for Civil Registration functionaries has also been prepared and distributed to all functionaries.

(e) The State Governments have taken several initiatives such as appointing Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANMs) / Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) as sub registrars, declaration of Primary Health Centers (PHCs) / Community Health Centers (CHCs) as registration centers for improving CRS.

(f) The steps 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; regular holding of meetings of Inter-Departmental and district level Coordination Committees etc.