

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:452

ANSWERED ON:26.04.2013

FEMALE FOETICIDE

Choudhary Shri Bhudeo;Venugopal Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the concern expressed by the Supreme Court regarding the falling sex ratio recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether certain cases of involvement of health workers including Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) in coaxing pregnant women for killing female fetuses in some States/UTs have been reported;
- (d) if so, the number of doctors and ASHAs found involved in the illegal determination of sex in the country along with the action taken against the guilty persons during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to increase the monetary support for institutional delivery of girl child and implement the law effectively?

**Answer**

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

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 452 FOR 26TH APRIL, 2013

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Government has accorded top priority to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 04.03.2013 in the Civil Writ Petition No. 349/2006 as the Union of India equally shares concern on the sharp decline of Child Sex Ratio. The Ministry has, vide letter dated 22.03.2013, forwarded a copy of the said Order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court for appropriate legal action and has asked States/UTs to furnish Action Taken Report within a stipulated time .

(c)&(d) No such incident has come to the notice regarding involvement of ASHAs. However, a total of 1500 court cases have been filed against private doctors for violation of PC&PNDT Act and 111 convictions have been secured so far. (State wise court cases, convictions and number of machines sealed is Annexed)

(e) There is no proposal to increase the monetary support for institutional delivery of girl child under Janani Suraksha Yojna. However, the Government has intensified effective implementation of the said Act and amended various rules covering provision for sealing, seizure and confiscation of unregistered ultra-sound machines and punishment against unregistered clinics, regulation of use of portable ultrasound machine only within the registered premises besides restricting medical practitioners to conduct ultrasonography at maximum of two ultrasound facilities within a district. Registration fees have been enhanced and rules have been amended to provide for advance intimation in change in employees, place, address or equipment.

Action against clinics/facilities violating the provisions of the PC& PNDT Act has been intensified. A total of 279 & 258 cases have been registered in 2011-12 & 2012-13 respectively as compared to 157 cases in 2010-11.