

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2373

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2013

FERTILITY CLINICS AGENCIES

Patel Shri Lalubhai;Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab;Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that due to lack of enough legal provisions to safeguard the interests of poor surrogate mothers they are being exploited by the fertility clinics/agencies in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government is also aware that a surrogate mother receive only a paltry sum for being a surrogate mother, while the clinics/agencies involved take huge amount of money from the NonResident Indian (NRI) parents from western countries;

(c) if so, the details of such cases reported so far during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to evolve and formulate a regulatory mechanism for fertility clinics/surrogacy industry with the provision to safeguard the interests of surrogate mother and children and also fix a payment structure for surrogate mother?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Yes. The Government is aware through media reports that surrogate mothers are exploited by fertility clinics/agencies in the absence of legal safeguards.

(c): No such data is maintained.

(d): A draft Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Bill is under consideration of the Government to regulate fertility clinics and banks and to safeguard the interest of the stakeholders.