

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2536
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2009
DECLINE IN SEX RATIO
Gangaram Shri Awale Jaywant

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

- (a) whether the National Commission for Women (NCW) has made any recommendations on decline in sex ratio in the country; and
(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI)

(a) The National Commission for Women (NCW), has made recommendation on decline in sex ratio regarding i) advocacy, awareness and sensitization ii) monitoring and implementation of PC&PNDT Act. And (iii) modification in Act/Rules.

(b) The Government has taken action on strengthening the Pre-Conception & Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act (PC & PNDT Act) as well as creating awareness on the issue through various IEC mechanisms. Some of the steps taken by the Government to improve the Child Sex Ratio in the Country are: Constitution of the Central Supervisory Board under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, whose function, inter alia, is to review and monitor implementation of the Act and Rules and Regulations made there under and recommend to the Central Government changes in the said Act and Rules, where required, and to create public awareness against the practice of pre-conception sex selection and pre-natal determination of sex of foetus leading to female foeticide; constitution of the National Inspection & Monitoring Committee for undertaking field visits periodically across the country, and constitution of the national Support and Monitoring Cell for effective implementation of the Act, training of Judiciary, publication of Annual Reports, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), On-Line Complaint facility on the Ministry's Website, organizing sensitization workshop/seminars, launching of "Save the Girl Child" campaign, seeking cooperation from the NGOs/religious leaders, etc., Further, under the National Rural Health Mission, Auxillary Nursing Midwife (ANM) and Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) have been sensitized on the issue. Also, funds have been provided to all States/UTs under the Reproductive Child Health programme for implementation of the Act and related activities.