

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:415

ANSWERED ON:21.02.2014

AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY

Antony Shri Anto;Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar

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

- (a) whether the life expectancy has shown improvement in the country over the years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the average life expectancy of male and female in the rural and urban areas of the country, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has identified the health challenges to be faced by the country in the coming years with the increased life expectancy of people;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed by the Government to meet these challenges; and
- (e) the other measures taken/proposed by the Government for providing better health services to ensure healthy life and to further improve the average life expectancy of people in the country ?

**Answer**

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 415 FOR 21ST FEBRUARY, 2014

Estimates based on the Sample Registration System (SRS) of the Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India, show that the average life expectancy at birth has been increasing over the years and has increased to 66.1 years during the period 2006-10 (latest available) from 49.7 years during 1970-75. Estimates are available only for bigger States. State-wise details of the estimates for the period 2006-10 separately for males and females, with rural-urban break up are Annexed.

2. A cross-sectional multi-centric community based study of elderly population aged 60 years and above, conducted jointly by the Government and WHO Country Office in India, has revealed that diseases like hypertension, diabetes mellitus, ischaemic heart disease, poor vision, difficulty in hearing, anaemia, arthritis, fall / fractures, bowel complaints, urinary complaints, depression, weight loss, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, TB are common among older patients.

3. Recognizing the need for specialized accessible health care for the elderly, the Government has launched various programmes, including the National Programme for Health Care of Elderly (NPHCE) and Integrated Programme for Older Persons. These programmes aim to provide health care facilities to senior citizens (aged 60 years and above) at primary, secondary and tertiary health care delivery system and to further increase the average life expectancy of people. The Government has also enacted 'Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007'.