

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3317

ANSWERED ON:01.08.2014

SEX RATIO

Rajesh Shri M. B.

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Child Sex Ratio (CSR) has declined in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has taken note of the United Nations' World Population Fund Reports which states that the India has one of the highest sex imbalances in the world;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the said report has also warned that the India is likely to have shortage of brides in the next twenty years due to adverse juvenile sex ratio;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve sex ratio in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a): The Child Sex Ratio (CSR) data is made available by decennial census data . As per the Census 2011, the Child Sex Ratio (0-6 years has shown a decline from 927 females per 1000 males in 2001 to 919 females per 1000 males in 2011. State/UT-wise details of Child Sex Ratio is annexed. Some of the reasons for neglect of girl child and low Child Sex Ratio are due to mindset having preference for son and low status of women, preference for small family coupled with easy availability of technology of sex determination tests and abortion services act as a catalyst in the declining Child Sex Ratio.

(b) to (f): Government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy entailing schemes and programmes and awareness generation/advocacy measures to build a positive environment for the girl child through gender sensitive policies, provisions and legislation. As informed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Government has taken number of measures to improve Child Sex Ratio (CSR) such as rendering financial support to the States and UTs for operationalisation of PNDT Cells, Capacity Building, Orientation & Sensitisation Workshops, Information, Education and Communication campaigns and for strengthening structures for the implementation of the Act under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). Further the measures for intensified effective implementation of the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994.

The Government in their Budget speech 2014-15 has announced Beti Bachao Beti Padhao- campaign for celebrating the girl child and empowering her through her education.