

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3945
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2015
CHILDREN DIED IN HOSPITALS
Patel Shri Natubhai Gomanbhai

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

- (a) the number of children died during each of the last three years and the current year in the Government and private hospitals of the country, State/ UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has assessed the reasons for such deaths and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has chalked out any action plan/strategy to prevent such deaths and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRA FLASH NADDA)

(a) to (d): Health is a State Subject and hence no such information is maintained by the Ministry of Health and family Welfare.

As per WHO 2012 estimates, the causes of Child Mortality in the age group 0-5 years in India are: Neonatal causes (53%), Pneumonia (15%), Diarrhoeal disease (12%), Measles (3%), Injuries (3%) and Others (14%). Besides this, Illiteracy, low socio-economic status, early age of marriage, high parity, women's empowerment, poor sanitation, hygiene and nutrition, poor access to health facilities are also contributing factors of Child mortality.

Under National Health Mission, the following interventions are being implemented in the states & UTs to reduce Under five mortality rate in the country:

1. Promotion of institutional deliveries through Janani Suraksha Yojana.
2. Operationalization of 24x7 basic and comprehensive obstetric care services, in identified facility.
3. Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) entitles all pregnant women delivering in public health institutions to absolutely free and no expense delivery including Caesarean section. The initiative stipulates free drugs, diagnostics, blood and diet, besides free transport from home to institution, between facilities in case of a re- ferral and drop back home. Similar entitlements have been put in place for all sick infants accessing public health institutions for treatment.
4. Universal Immunization Programme (UIP): Vaccination protects children against many life threatening diseases such as Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Polio, Tetanus, Hepatitis B and Measles. Infants are thus immunized against seven vaccine preventable diseases every year. The Government of India supports the vaccine programme by supply of vaccines and syringes, cold chain equipment and provision of operational costs.
5. Strengthening Facility based newborn care: Newborn care corners (NBCC) are being set up at all health facilities where deliveries take place; Special New Born Care Units (SNCUs) and New Born Stabilization Units (NBSUs) are also being set up at appropriate facilities for the care of sick newborn including preterm babies.
6. Home Based Newborn Care (HBNC): Home based newborn care through ASHA has been initiated to improve new born practices at the community level and early detection and referral of sick new born babies
7. Capacity building of health care providers: Various trainings are being conducted under National Health Mission (NHM) to build and upgrade the skills of health care providers in basic and comprehensive obstetric care of mother during pregnancy, delivery and essential newborn care.
8. Management of Malnutrition: Nutritional Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs) have been established for management of severe acute malnutrition in children.
9. Newer interventions to reduce newborn mortality- Vitamin K injection at birth, Ante- natal corticosteroids for preterm labour, kangaroo mother care and injection gentamicin for possible serious bacillary infection.

10. Integrated Action Plan for Pneumonia and Diarrhoea (IAPPD) launched in four States with highest infant mortality (UP, MP, Bihar and Rajasthan).