

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2566
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2014
FEMALE FOETICIDE
Birla Shri Om;Mahajan Smt. Poonam

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

- (a) whether as per 2011 census, female sex ratio is on the decline in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the male female ratio in the rural and urban areas of the country, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether instances of female foeticide and infanticide continue to remain high in the country and if so, the number of cases of female foeticide reported in the country during each of the last three years and the current year along with the action taken against people found guilty in such cases, /UT-wise;
- (d) the details of the various programmes being undertaken by the Government to curb female foeticide in the country along with the funds allocated/ released/utilized during the said period in this regard; and
- (e) the further steps being taken by the Government for strengthening infrastructure and augmentation of human resources required for effective implementation of Pre-Conception and Pre- Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act (PC&PNDT Act) including scaling up of inspection by the National Inspection and Monitoring Committee?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) & (b): No. As per the Census, 2011 the over all sex ratio has shown an increase from 933 females per 1000 males in 2001 to 943 females per 1000 males in 2011. However, the child sex ratio (CSR) (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 CSR are placed at Annexure-I.

(c): A total of 132 cases, 210 cases and 221 cases were reported under foeticide and a total of 63 cases, 81 cases and 82 cases were reported under infanticide during 2011, 2012 and 2013 respectively. However, gender-wise data of foeticide is not maintained. State/UT-wise data relating to cases registered, cases charge-sheeted, cases convicted, persons arrested, persons charge-sheeted, persons convicted and cases conviction rate under foeticide during 2011-2013, as maintained by the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) are at Annexure-II.

(d) & (e): 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. The measures include the following:-

The Government is rendering financial support to the States and UTs for operationali- sation 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). The details of funds during the F.Y. 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 are at Annexure-III.

The Government has intensified effective implementation of the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 and amended various provisions of the Rules.

The Minister of Health and Family Welfare has requested all the State Governments to strengthen implementation of the Act and to ensure timely steps to stop illegal sex determination.

Programme review at the state level has been intensified. Five regional review workshops for North, West, central, north east and Southern regions have been organized to evaluate and review the progress of implementation of PCPNDT Act in the country during 2013-14.

Directions given vide Order dated 04.03.2013 by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of WP(C) 349/2006 were communicated to the States/ UTs at the level of Health Minister to Chief Ministers and Chief Secretaries to ensure immediate compliance.

The Prime Minister has urged the Chief Ministers of all States to provide personal leadership to reverse the declining trend in Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and address the neglect of the girl child through focus on education and empowerment.

Inspections by the National Inspection and Monitoring Committee (NIMC) have been scaled up. Inspections have been carried out in 45 districts of 19 states including Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh (twice), Delhi (twice), Bihar, Orissa, Haryana, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh (twice), Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Jharkhand. A total of 142 clinics were inspected and 59 clinics were sealed from August 2011- March 2014. 28 cases have already been filed in the Courts. # States have been advised to focus on Districts/Blocks/Villages with low Child Sex Ratio to ascertain the causes, plan appropriate behaviour change communication campaigns and effectively implement provisions of the PC & PNDT Act.

