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Title: Need to conduct an inquiry into the increasing incidents of child mortality in the country - Laid.

Ms. INGRID MCLEOD(NOMINATED): I want to draw the attention of the Government to sudden increase in child mortality in various district hospitals in the country. In the very recent past there have been numerous reports of negligence on the part of Government pediatricians leading to numerous death of the very children they are employed to save. Gross apathy to the plight of children from poor families, admitted to the District hospital in Raigarh in the state of Chhattisgarh, is a case in point. Since 2005 there have been 1024 cases of child mortality in Raigarh district hospital in Chhattisgarh. 179 children have died this year alone. From 1<sup>st</sup> May to 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2007 that is 34 days, 59 children have died. Compare the death rate of children with the life-saving facilities available at the hospital. Yearly purchase of medicine alone is Rs 40 lakhs. Last year medicine worth Rs. 2 crore were purchased for treatment of sudden outbreak of diseases. How then did so many children die in this one single hospital. I request the honourable minister to hold an enquiry into the matter in order to fix responsibility for criminal and medical negligence on the doctors in this hospital.