

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2427  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2018**

**DECREASE IN SEX RATIO**

**2427. SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:**

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

- (a) whether NITI Aayog released 'Healthy States, Progressive Report' recently and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether as per the report, there has been a decrease in the sex ratio in 18 States of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the ill effects of decreasing sex ratio; and
- (d) if so, the schemes formulated or proposes to be formulated by the Government to increase the sex ratio and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): Yes. "Healthy States, Progressive India-Report on the ranks of States and UTs" have been released by NITI Aayog to nudge States to bring about the much required improvements in the Health sector with a focus to capture the annual incremental improvements by States. The report is available on the official website of NITI Aayog in:

[http://niti.gov.in/writereaddata/files/document\\_publication/Healthy-States-Progressive-India-Report\\_0.pdf](http://niti.gov.in/writereaddata/files/document_publication/Healthy-States-Progressive-India-Report_0.pdf)

(b): As per the above report Sex ratio at Birth (SRB) is substantially lower in almost all Larger States - 17 out of 21 States have SRB of less than 950 females per 1000 males. Further, SRB has declined in these States between the base year (2012-14) and reference year (2013-15), except for Bihar, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh where improvements in SRB were noted, and Jammu & Kashmir where it stagnated. Details are given in Annexure I

(c) & (d): Yes, in view of growing misuse of technology for sex selection leading to pre-birth elimination of females that mainly contributes towards the decline of sex ratio at Birth, Government of India is implementing Pre-conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PC&PNDT) Act 1994.

The Pre-conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PC&PNDT) Act 1994 regulates the use of Pre-conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques which has a potential of selection/ determination of sex of the foetus and prohibits the use of these diagnostic techniques for sex selection

The Government of India besides enactment of the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994, has adopted a multi-pronged strategy entailing schemes and programmes for awareness generation and advocacy measures to build a positive environment for the girl child through gender sensitive policies, provisions and legislation. The details of important measures taken by Government of India in this regard are at Annexure – II

Further, Government of India launched Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Campaign (BBBP) in 2015 to address the declining child sex ratio and related issues of women empowerment over a life cycle continuum. The key element of the scheme includes nation-wide awareness and advocacy campaign and multi-sectoral action in selected 161 districts at present. The Government of India has decided to expand the BBBP scheme in all 640 districts (as per census 2011) in the country through Alert District Media Campaign and extending multi-sectoral interventions in 405 districts having low child sex ratio.

## Annexure I

### States wise Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) during Base Year (2012-14) and Reference Year (2013-15)-Large States.

Sl. No.	States	Base Year (2012-14)	Reference Year (2013-15)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	Haryana	866	831
2	Himachal Pradesh	938	924
3	Jammu & Kashmir	899	899
4	Punjab	870	889
5	Rajasthan	893	861
6	Uttarakhand	871	844
7	Chhattisgarh	973	961
8	Madhya Pradesh	927	919
9	Uttar Pradesh	869	879
10	Bihar	907	916
11	Jharkhand	910	902
12	Odisha	953	950
13	West Bengal	952	951
14	Assam	918	900
15	Gujarat	907	854
16	Maharashtra	896	878
17	Andhra Pradesh	919	918
18	Karnataka	950	939
19	Kerala	974	967
20	Tamil Nadu	921	911
21	Telangana	919	918

## Annexure II

- As per Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs) December, 2017 submitted by States/ UTs, 59836 diagnostic facilities including Genetic Counselling Centre, Genetic Laboratory, Genetic Clinic, Ultrasound Clinic and Imaging Centre have been registered under the PC& PNDT Act. So far, a total of 2007 machines have been sealed and seized for violations of the law. A total of 3986 (2713 *pending* & 1273 *disposed of*) court cases have been filed by the District Appropriate Authorities under the Act and 449 convictions have so far been secured. Following conviction, the medical licenses of 118 doctors have been suspended/ cancelled.
- Inspections by the National Inspection and Monitoring Committee (NIMC) have been scaled up. During 2015-16, 22 NIMC inspections have been undertaken in the States of Punjab, Puducherry, Tripura, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Bihar, Mizoram, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Assam, Uttarakhand, Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal. During 2016-17, 12 NIMC inspections have been undertaken in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi, West Bengal, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh. During 2017-18, 19 NIMC visits has been conducted in States of Punjab, Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Manipur, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Odisha, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Sikkim, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.
- State/ UTs Inspection and Monitoring Committees have been constituted in the States/ UTs and are conducting regular inspections on the ground.
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is rendering financial support to strengthen implementation structures under National Health Mission (NHM) for setting up of dedicated PNDT Cells, capacity building, monitoring, and advocacy campaigns etc.
- A National Capacity Building Programme for State Appropriate Authorities and State Nodal Officers was organized on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2017 at Delhi in collaboration with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).
- A comprehensive Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) for District Appropriate Authority has been prepared by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for better clarity for implementation of the PC&PNDT Act.
- Program review at the State/UTs level has been intensified. During 2016-17, 4 regional review workshops were organized for Northern, Western, Eastern and North-Eastern States in Lucknow, Jaipur, Thiruvananthapuram and Kolkata. During 2017-18, 2 Regional Review workshops for Eastern region and Southern region have been conducted.

- Directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of WP(C) 349/2006 (Voluntary Health Association of Punjab vs. UOI & others), were communicated to the States/ UTs and concerned Ministries/Departments for ensuring compliance.
- The Government has also set up a Nodal Agency to regulate and remove the e-advertisements on internet relating to preconception and prenatal determination of sex or sex selection, prohibited under the PC&PNDT Act, 1994 as per the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 16.11.2016 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 341 of 2008.
- A two-day orientation and sensitization of judiciary was organized by National Judicial Academy on 4th & 5th February 2017 in Bhopal. Further the National Judicial Academy also conducted special PC & PNDT Act session in two orientation programmes for High Court Judges in the current financial year 2017-18.
- 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.