

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) to (c). About 60 letters are reported to have been received by various Doordarshan Kendras during the last three months upto 10.4.1990 complaining that as parents they felt embarrassed watching some family welfare spots relating to contraceptive methods.

No obscene or indecent language has been used in these advertisement. These advertisements were scrutinised in this Ministry as also by the Doordarshan authorities before being approved for screening.

Spots on Family Welfare telecast by Doordarshan are by and large comprehended and accepted by viewers. The Audience Analysis Research Wing of Delhi Doordarshan had conducted a Survey of spots being telecast which showed that about 15% of the total respondents interviewed had felt some embarrassment but over 85% of the persons had found the messages informative and useful.

[English]

Death of Children

*611. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND

FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of new born babies die in the country due to causes peculiar to infancy;

(b) if so, the number of babies who died during the last three years, year and state-wise; and

(c) whether any remedial measures have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD):

(a) to (c). No information is available on the actual number of new born babies which die due to causes peculiar to infancy. However, according to studies conducted by Registrar General of India, 9.8% of total deaths occurring in the country in the year 1988 are due to causes peculiar to infancy. This term includes causes like prematurity, birth injuries, congenial malformation, respiratory infection of the new born and diarrhoea of the new born etc. Estimates of deaths due to causes peculiar to infancy during the last 3 years for which date is available in respect of major States is given in the following table in terms of percentage to total deaths:

| <i>States</i> | <i>1986</i> | <i>1987</i> | <i>1988</i> |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <i>1</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>4</i> |
| Andhra Pradesh | 11.0 | 10.1 | 10.8 |
| Assam | 3.9 | 11.1 | 12.0 |
| Bihar | 5.3 | 4.6 | 5.2 |
| Gujarat | 12.7 | 9.8 | 7.8 |

| <i>States</i> | <i>1986</i> | <i>1987</i> | <i>1988</i> |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <i>1</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>4</i> |
| Haryana | 5.8 | 7.2 | 5.3 |
| Karnataka | 16.5 | 17.0 | 14.7 |
| Kerala | 1.5 | 2.8 | 1.7 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 5.2 | 4.4 | 5.1 |
| Maharashtra | 12.0 | 14.0 | 12.2 |
| Orissa | 14.5 | 12.1 | 14.9 |
| Punjab | 2.7 | 4.8 | 5.0 |
| Rajasthan | 12.7 | 11.6 | 10.1 |
| Tamil Nadu | 7.7 | 7.1 | 7.1 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 12.8 | 16.5 | 16.3 |
| India | 10.5 | 10.2 | 9.8 |

The remedial measures taken by the Government to reduce infant mortality include programme of training and retraining of traditional birth attendants, expansion of health infrastructure and provision of trained manpower at rural sub centres, intensification of maternity & child health service, immunization of pregnant women and children, promotion of oral rehydration therapy to combat diarrhoeal diseases, promotion of breast feeding and proper weaning practices and extensive health and population education to promote spacing of birth interval and adoption of small family norm. Scheme of prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia and Integrated Child Development Services have also been vigorously imple-

mented as part of the Primary health Care Programme.

*The study has been conducted by the Registrar General of India during 1988 and relates to rural areas only. The findings of the study have been published in the Annual Report of the Registrar General of India.

National Health Programme

*612. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR:
SHRI K. MANAVENDRA
SINGH.

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