

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3633
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH MARCH, 2018**

NEW BORN MORTALITY RATE

3633. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY:

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

- (a) whether the UNICEF has ranked India as the 12th worst nation amongst 52 low middle income countries with New Born Mortality (NBM) Rate of 25.4 per thousand;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the children born to mothers with no education face twice the risk of dying during the new born stage; and
- (c) whether Government will consider providing counseling to the would-be mothers about the care that is needed to look after new born babies for the protection of the babies and improving the mortality rate amongst them?

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

(a): As per the “Every Child Alive- The urgent need to end new-born deaths” published by UNICEF in 2018, India ranks 12th in the 52 low middle income countries of the world on the basis of new-born mortality. However, as per Sample Registration System, 2016 report of Registrar General of India, the Neo-natal Mortality Rate (NMR) for India is 24 per 1000 live births.

(b) & (c): As per the aforementioned report, babies born to mothers with no education face almost twice the risk of dying as babies born to mothers with at least a secondary education.

Under National Health Mission, Government of India is already providing counselling during antenatal and postnatal period to mothers for promotion of healthy diets, institutional delivery, early initiation of breastfeeding and exclusive breastfeeding till the age of six months, free treatment of sick infants till one year of age, community care practices and awareness about danger signs which helps to reduce mortality rate among new-borns.