

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1878
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2025**

CHILDREN COVERED UNDER RASHTRIYA BAL SWASTHYA KARYAKRAM

1878 # MS. INDU BALA GOSWAMI:

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

- (a) whether children from birth to 18 years of age are covered under the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the implementation of this health programme has led to reduction in child mortality rates in rural areas; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) and (b) Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) is a program to improve the overall quality of life of children and provide comprehensive care to all the children in the community. This program involves screening of children from birth to 18 years of age for four Ds- Defects at birth, Diseases, Deficiencies and Development delays, spanning 32 common health conditions for early detection and free treatment and management, including surgeries at tertiary level. Children diagnosed with identified health conditions are provided early intervention services and follow-up care at the district level.

(c) and (d) According to the Sample Registration System (SRS) report by the Registrar General of India at National level, the Under-5 Mortality Rate (U5MR) in the rural areas has declined from 51 per 1,000 live births in 2014 to 34 per 1,000 live births in 2022.

The major interventions under RBSK are as follows:

- i. Comprehensive newborn screening at delivery points to screen birth defects of the newborn.
- ii. Community screening for children in the age group 0-18 years of age by Mobile Health Team.
 - (a) At the Anganwadi (Twice a year)
 - (b) At Government and Government aided schools (once a year)
- iii. Screening of the children by the Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) through the Home based New born care program as a part of Early Childhood Development (Home visit).
- iv. Therapeutic management of the identified children at the District Early Intervention Centres (DEIC) and Tertiary care centers.
