

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 265
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22nd JULY, 2025**

DECLINE IN THE SEX RATIO AT BIRTH IN BIHAR

265. SHRI A.D. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether, according to the Health Management Information System (HMIS), the sex ratio at birth in Bihar fell from 914 in 2021-22 to 894 in 2022-23 and further to 882 in 2023-24, indicating an alarming decline since 2020;
- (b) the reasons identified for this trend;
- (c) the measures, such as strict implementation of the PCPNDT Act and awareness programmes like "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao etc.," have been taken or proposed to reverse the trend;
- (d) whether any independent assessments have been conducted, district-wise; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) & (b) : The Government of India has enacted the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994, to promote awareness and advocacy for creating a positive environment for the girl child through gender-sensitive policies and legislative measures.

According to the Sample Registration System (SRS) Report 2021, the Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) in Bihar is 900 females per 1000 males. As per data from the Health Management Information System (HMIS), SRB in Bihar has declined from 898 in 2021–22 to 894 in 2022–23, and further to 883 in 2023–24 due to various social and cultural factors.

(c) to (e) : As per the information received, the State Health Society, Bihar has undertaken several activities for strict implementation of PC & PNDT Act which includes:

- Organizing capacity-building workshop for Judicial Magistrates at the Judicial Academy and sensitization workshop for District Advisory Committee (DAC) members
- Conducting multi-sectoral workshop for sensitization and capacity building on PC & PNDT Act and a State-level workshop on developing a comprehensive health response to Gender based Violence.
- Different types of Information, Education & Communication (IEC) materials based on PC & PNDT Act are distributed across health facilities, and awareness content is broadcasted through social media platforms at regular intervals.
- National Girl Child Day, International Day of the Girl Child, and International Women's Day are celebrated every year across the country, including the State of Bihar.
- The State also maintains a dedicated PNDT portal, where monthly reports from districts are uploaded and compiled to support the effective implementation of the PC&PNDT Act.

Additionally, to promote the empowerment of girls, the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme was launched by Ministry of Women & Child Development (MoWCD) on 22nd January 2015. It is now part of the 'Sambal' sub-scheme under Mission Shakti and has been expanded to all districts across the country, focusing on changing societal attitudes towards the girl child through multi-sectoral interventions. An operational manual has been issued under BBBP with a thematic activity calendar suggesting month-wise convergence activities at the district level. Themes include: Girl Child Importance, Education, Gender Equality, Sports, Prevention of Child Marriage, Skill Development, Digital Literacy and Cyber Safety, Sexual and Reproductive Health, Nutrition, Mental and Psycho-social Health, Safety, and Legal Rights of girls.

The Central Supervisory Board (CSB), constituted under Section 7 of the Pre-conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Union Minister of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare oversees and provides guidance on the implementation of the PC&PNDT Act centrally. The Board comprises of representatives from MoWCD, Department of Legal Affairs & Indian System of Medicine & Homeopathy, women Members of Parliament, State/UT representatives, special invitees and subject experts.

Regular review and assessment through various institutional mechanisms like Common Review Mission visits, Inspection & Monitoring visits are carried out by Centre, States and Districts so as to further strengthen the ground level implementation of the PC&PNDT Act.
