

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1893  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2026**

**RISING CAESAREAN DELIVERIES AND REGULATORY OVERSIGHT IN  
MATERNAL HEALTHCARE**

**1893 SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA:**

Will the **MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Family Health Survey-6 (NFHS-6) reports that Caesarean section (C-section) deliveries in India have increased from 21.5 per cent in NFHS-5 (2019-21) to 27.2 per cent in NFHS-6 (2023-24), with private healthcare facilities recording 54.1 per cent C-section deliveries compared to 16.9 per cent in public facilities; and
- (b) if so, whether in view of the World Health Organization (WHO)'s recommendation for an optimal C-section rate of 10-15 per cent, what regulatory measures the Ministry is considering to address possible over-medicalization and ensure that surgical births are driven by medical necessity rather than commercial incentives?

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

- (a) The details of the percentage of C-section deliveries in Government and private hospitals across the country, are provided at the link given below.

[https://www.nfhsiips.in/nfhsuser/assets/National%20Family%20Health%20Survey%20\(NFHS-6\)%202023-2024%20Fact%20Sheets.pdf](https://www.nfhsiips.in/nfhsuser/assets/National%20Family%20Health%20Survey%20(NFHS-6)%202023-2024%20Fact%20Sheets.pdf)

- (b) Under the National Health Mission (NHM), various regulatory measures have been taken to address the over-medicalization and to discourage unnecessary caesarean deliveries across all States/UTs. The key measures are:
- CGHS empaneled hospitals are required to prominently display information regarding the ratio of deliveries by Caesarean section vis-à-vis normal deliveries.
  - Data Reporting and monitoring strengthened at health care facilities.
  - Under National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS), a dedicated C-section audit component is embedded in the assessment checklist for Maternity OTs for all Government Hospitals.
  - Various training programs, including Daksh, Dakshta, Skilled Birth Attendant (SBA) and Nurse Practitioner Midwifery (NPM) have been instituted.

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