

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2966  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER, 2016**

**NEO-NATAL DEATHS**

**2966. SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that death of every new born in India can be traced to low birth weight on premature delivery;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) details of the death of neo-natal recorded to the low birth weight and premature delivery during the last three years, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to reduce such death?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)**

(a) to (c): As per the Sample Registration Report (SRS) of Registrar General of India (2010-13), 29.8% of newborn deaths are attributed to Prematurity & low birth weight.

Details of the neo-natal deaths, State/UT-wise are not maintained at central level.

(d): Government of India under National Health Mission (NHM) considers life cycle approach to address new-born mortality which includes preterm. The various interventions under this plan are: Iron and folic acid supplementation to adolescents and pregnant women, promotion of institutional deliveries, ensuring essential new-born care at all delivery points, provision of Special New-born Care Units(SNCU) and Kangaroo Mother Care units for care of sick and small babies, home visitation by ASHAs to promote exclusive breast feeding and early detection and referral of sick new-born and empowering ANM to give injection gentamicin for treatment of neonatal infections and use of antenatal corticosteroids for preterm labour. Besides Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) entitles all pregnant women delivering in public health institutions to absolutely free and no expense delivery including Caesarean section. The Ministry of Health and family Welfare, GoI under National Health Mission provides support to the states for above activities through the annual programme implementation plans.