

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2559  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2017**

**FEMALE FOETICIDE**

**2559. SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI:  
SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:**

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

- (a) whether the cases of female foeticide have increased in the country during the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has worked out any multi-pronged strategy entailing schemes and awareness generation/ advocacy measures to build a positive environment for the girl child through gender sensitive policies, provisions and legislation; and
- (c) if so, the details with result thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): As per the information received from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), NCRB has started collecting data on female foeticides since 2014 and as reported by NCRB, a total of 50 foeticides were reported in 2014 and 45 foeticides were reported in 2015 in the country, showing a decrease of 10% in female foeticides during 2015 over 2014. State/UT-wise such data is enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

Some of the reasons for female foeticide are son preference and the belief that it is only the son who can perform the last rites, that lineage and inheritance runs through the male line, sons will look after parents in old age, men are the bread winners etc. Exorbitant dowry demand is another reason for female foeticide/infanticide. Small family norm coupled with easy availability of sex determination tests may be a catalyst in the declining child sex ratio, further facilitated by easy availability of Pre-conception and pre-natal sex selection facilities.

(b) & (c): The Government has enacted the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994, for prohibition of sex selection before or after conception and for prevention of misuse of pre-conception and pre-natal diagnostic techniques for sex determination.

Contd.....

The Government of India besides enactment of the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994, has adopted a multi-pronged strategy entailing schemes and programmes for awareness generation and advocacy measures to build a positive environment for the girl child through gender sensitive policies, provisions and legislation. The details of important measures taken by Government of India are at **Annexure – II.**

As per the quarterly progress report (QPR) received from States/ UTs, a total of 56079 facilities have been registered under the Act. A total of 2316 court cases have been filed by the District Appropriate Authorities for violating the provisions of the PC&PNDT Act, out of which 294 cases have been filed against unregistered diagnostic centres and 1683 machines have been sealed/seized. A total of 388 convictions have been secured under PC&PNDT Act, 1994. Following the convictions, the medical licenses of 108 doctors have been suspended by the various State Medical Councils. Further, all these have been secured through strong implementation of the Act/Rules.

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**Annexure-I****Cases Registered under Female Foeticide during 2014 - 2015**

S. No.	States/UTs	2014	2015
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	0	0
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0	0
3	ASSAM	0	0
4	BIHAR	0	0
5	CHHATTISGARH	2	3
6	GOA	0	0
7	GUJARAT	0	0
8	HARYANA	4	10
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH	3	0
10	JAMMU & KASHMIR	0	0
11	JHARKHAND	0	0
12	KARNATAKA	0	0
13	KERALA	0	0
14	MADHYA PRADESH	15	8
15	MAHARASHTRA	1	5
16	MANIPUR	0	0
17	MEGHALAYA	0	0
18	MIZORAM	0	0
19	NAGALAND	0	0
20	ODISHA	0	0
21	PUNJAB	7	6
22	RAJASTHAN	11	4
23	SIKKIM	0	0
24	TAMIL NADU	0	0
25	TELANGANA	2	2
26	TRIPURA	0	0
27	UTTAR PRADESH	4	6
28	UTTARAKHAND	1	0
29	WEST BENGAL	0	0
	<b>TOTAL (STATES)</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>
30	A&N ISLANDS	0	0
31	CHANDIGARH	0	0
32	D&N HAVELI	0	0
33	DAMAN & DIU	0	0
34	DELHI	0	1
35	LAKSHADWEEP	0	0
36	PUDUCHERRY	0	0
	<b>TOTAL (UTs)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>TOTAL (ALL-INDIA)</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>45</b>

Source: Crime in India

## Annexure-II

- The Government has intensified effective implementation of the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 and amended various provisions of the Rules.
- The Government is rendering financial support to the States and UTs for operationalization of PNDT Cells, Capacity Building, Orientation & Sensitisation Workshop, Information, Education and Communication campaigns and for strengthening structures for the implementation of the PC & PNDT Act under the National Health Mission (NHM).
- Regular reviews of the implementation of the PC & PNDT Act by the States/UTs are done by MoHFW. Capacity Building Programme for State Appropriate Authorities and State Nodal Officers is organized periodically.
- A comprehensive Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) for District Appropriate Authority has been prepared by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for better clarity for implementation of the PC&PNDT Act.
- Program review at the state level has been intensified. During 2015-16 five regional review workshops have been organized for Northern Eastern, Northern, Eastern, Western and Southern States in Imphal, Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar and Hyderabad (two) respectively. During 2016-17 four regional review workshops have been organized for Northern, Western, Eastern and North-Eastern States in Lucknow, Jaipur, Thiruvananthapuram and Kolkata.
- Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) was launched as one of the flagship programmes of the Government, to address the declining Child Sex Ratio and related issues of empowerment of women on a life-cycle continuum. It is a tri-ministerial, convergent effort of Ministries of Women and Child Development, Health & Family Welfare and Human Resource Development with a focus on awareness and advocacy campaign for changing mindsets, multi-sectoral action in select 100+61 districts (low on CSR), enabling girls' education and effective enforcement of Pre-Conception & Pre Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PC&PNDT) Act.
- Directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of WP(C) 349/2006 (Voluntary Health Association of Punjab vs. UOI & others), were communicated to the States/ UTs for ensuring compliance.
- Inspections by the National Inspection and Monitoring Committee (NIMC) have been scaled up. During 2015-16 and 2016-17, 31 NIMC inspections have been undertaken in various States.
- The Government has also set up a Nodal Agency to regulate and remove the e-advertisements on internet relating to preconception and prenatal determination of sex or sex selection, prohibited under the PC&PNDT Act, 1994 as per the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 16.11.2016 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 341 of 2008.
- The orientation and sensitisation of judiciary has been conducted through National Judicial Academy. A two day orientation and sensitisation of judiciary was organised by National Judicial Academy on 4th & 5th February, 2017 in Bhopal.
- States have been advised to focus on Districts/Blocks/Villages with low Child Sex Ratio to ascertain the causes, plan appropriate behaviour change communication campaigns and effectively implement provisions of the PC & PNDT Act.

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