

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 79
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2017**

PRENATAL SEX DETERMINATION

79. SHRI KUNDARIYA MOHAN BHAI KALYANJI BHAI:

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

- (a) the details of steps taken by the Government to prevent prenatal determination of sex and selective abortions in the country during the last three years along with success achieved therein;
- (b) whether the Government has taken note of the remarks of the Supreme Court against internet giants hasting content related to prenatal sex determination;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check/block availability of such content/advertisements on internet?

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

(a): 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 important measures taken by Government of India to strengthen the implementation of the PC&PNDT Act are regular Regional Review cum Capacity building programs, National Review, allocation of fund for operationalization of PNDT cells under PIPs, National Inspection and Monitoring Committee visits, development of Standard Operating Guidelines, sensitization of judiciary, letters written to States/UTs for ensuring strict compliance of direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court. The progress in implementation over last 3 years is at **Annexure**.

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(b) to (d): Yes. In this regard Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 16.11.2016 in a Civil Writ Petition No. 341/ 2008 Dr. Sabu Mathew George Vs Union of Indian &Ors has directed Union of India to constitute a Nodal Agency, as an interim arrangement, that can receive complaints related to online sex selection e-advertisements and communicate the same to the concerned search engines for regulating and removing the same in compliance with the preconception and prenatal determination of sex or sex selection, prohibited under PC&PNDT Act, 1994.

Accordingly Union of India has constituted a Nodal Agency at the national level to receive complaints related to illegal sex selection advertisements from public. Ministry has also directed all the States/ UTs to constitute Nodal Agency on the similar lines and share the information of complaints forwarded to the search engines for redressal (removal of illegal material from website) with the Nodal Agency at the national level.

Annexure

Progress Report

S. No.	Indicators	March, 2014.	Up to June 2017	Progress during march 2014 to June 2017
1	Total registered facilities	49544	58338	8794
2	On-going court cases under PC & PNDT Act	1798	2636	838
3	No. of cases disposed off	590	1222	632
4	No. of convictions secured	192	421	229
5	No. of medical licenses cancelled	81	118	37