

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1937  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2018**

**INFANT CASUALTIES**

**1937. DR. RAVINDRA KUMAR RAY:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that in rural areas of the country nearly seven lakh infants die due to diseases which are curable;
- (b) whether pneumonia is the main cause behind such infant casualties;
- (c) if so, the total number of infants who died during the last three years, Statewise including Jharkhand; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent infant deaths?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) to (c): As per the Sample Registration System (SRS) reports published by the Registrar General of India for the year of 2016, the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) is 34 per 1,000 live births at national level and it is 38 per 1,000 live births in rural areas.

The major causes of infant mortality in India as per the SRS reports (2010-13) are: Prematurity & low birth weight (35.9%), Pneumonia (16.9%), Birth asphyxia & birth trauma (9.9%), Other non-communicable diseases (7.9%), Diarrhoeal diseases (6.7%), Ill-defined or cause unknown (4.6%), Congenital anomalies (4.6%), Acute bacterial sepsis and severe infections (4.2%), Injuries (2.1%), Fever of unknown origin (1.7%), All Other Remaining Causes (5.4%).

Infant Mortality Rate including Jharkhand as per Sample Registration System for last 3 years (2014-16) is placed at annexure.

(d): Health is a state subject, however to reduce Child Mortality, various programmes and schemes under National Health Mission are being implemented by States/ UTs and the Central government provides financial assistance to States/ UTs based on proposals received in their Annual Program Implementation Plan (APIP).

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- (1) Promotion of Institutional deliveries through cash incentive under Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) and Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) which entitles all pregnant women delivering in public health institutions to absolutely free ante-natal check-ups, delivery including Caesarean section, post-natal care and treatment of sick infants till one year of age.
- (2) Strengthening of delivery points for providing comprehensive and quality Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCH+A) Services, ensuring essential newborn care at all delivery points, establishment of Special Newborn Care Units (SNCU), Newborn Stabilization Units (NBSU) and Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) units for care of sick and small babies. Home Based Newborn Care (HBNC) and Home Based Care of Young Children (HBYC) are being provided by ASHAs to improve child rearing practices.
- (3) Early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding for first six months and appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices are promoted in convergence with Ministry of Women and Child Development. Village Health and Nutrition Days (VHNDs) are observed for provision of maternal and child health services and creating awareness on maternal and child care including health and nutrition education. Mothers' Absolute Affection (MAA) programme for improving breastfeeding practices (Initial Breastfeeding within one hour, Exclusive Breastfeeding up to six months and complementary feeding up to two years) through mass media campaigns and capacity building of health care providers in health facilities as well as in communities.
- (4) Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) is being supported to provide vaccination to children against many life threatening diseases such as Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Polio, Tetanus, Hepatitis B and Measles. "Mission Indradhanush and Intensified Mission Indradhanush" has been launched to fully immunize children who are either unvaccinated or partially vaccinated; those that have not been covered during the rounds of routine immunization for various reasons.
- (5) Name based tracking of mothers and children till two years of age (Mother and Child Tracking System) is done to ensure complete antenatal, intranatal, postnatal care and complete immunization as per schedule
- (6) Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) for health screening, early detection of birth defects, diseases, deficiencies, development delays and early intervention services has been Operationalized to provide comprehensive care to all the children in the age group of 0-18 years in the community.
- (7) Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs) have been set up at public health facilities to treat and manage the children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admitted with medical complications.
- (8) Iron and folic acid (IFA) supplementation for the prevention of anaemia among the vulnerable age groups, home visits by ASHAs to promote exclusive breast feeding and promote use of ORS and Zinc for management of diarrhoea in children.
- (9) Health and nutrition education through Information, Education & Communication (IEC) and Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) to promote healthy practices and create awareness to generate demand and improve service uptake.
- (10) Capacity building of health care providers: Various trainings are being conducted to build and upgrade the skills of health care providers in basic and comprehensive obstetric care of mother during pregnancy, delivery and essential new-born care.

**Annexure**

| Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births ) (2014 -2016)   |                           |           |           |           |
|--|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| S. No.   | India/States/UTs          | 2014      | 2015      | 2016      |
|  | <b>India</b>              | <b>39</b> | <b>37</b> | <b>34</b> |
| 1  | Andhra Pradesh            | 39        | 37        | 34        |
| 2  | Assam                     | 49        | 47        | 44        |
| 3  | Bihar                     | 42        | 42        | 38        |
| 4  | Chhattisgarh              | 43        | 41        | 39        |
| 5  | Delhi                     | 20        | 18        | 18        |
| 6  | Gujarat                   | 35        | 33        | 30        |
| 7  | Haryana                   | 36        | 36        | 33        |
| 8  | Himachal Pradesh          | 32        | 28        | 25        |
| 9  | Jammu & Kashmir           | 34        | 26        | 24        |
| 10   | Jharkhand                 | 34        | 32        | 29        |
| 11   | Karnataka                 | 29        | 28        | 24        |
| 12   | Kerala                    | 12        | 12        | 10        |
| 13   | Madhya Pradesh            | 52        | 50        | 47        |
| 14   | Maharashtra               | 22        | 21        | 19        |
| 15   | Odisha                    | 49        | 46        | 44        |
| 16   | Punjab                    | 24        | 23        | 21        |
| 17   | Rajasthan                 | 46        | 43        | 41        |
| 18   | Tamil Nadu                | 20        | 19        | 17        |
| 19   | Telangana                 | 35        | 34        | 31        |
| 20   | Uttar Pradesh             | 48        | 46        | 43        |
| 21   | West Bengal               | 28        | 26        | 25        |
| 22   | Arunachal Pradesh         | 30        | 30        | 36        |
| 23   | Goa                       | 10        | 9         | 8         |
| 24   | Manipur                   | 11        | 9         | 11        |
| 25   | Meghalaya                 | 46        | 42        | 39        |
| 26   | Mizoram                   | 32        | 32        | 27        |
| 27   | Nagaland                  | 14        | 12        | 12        |
| 28   | Sikkim                    | 19        | 18        | 16        |
| 29   | Tripura                   | 21        | 20        | 24        |
| 30   | Uttarakhand               | 33        | 34        | 38        |
| 31   | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 22        | 20        | 16        |
| 32   | Chandigarh                | 23        | 21        | 14        |
| 33   | Dadra & Nagar Haveli      | 26        | 21        | 17        |
| 34   | Daman & Diu               | 18        | 18        | 19        |
| 35   | Lakshadweep               | 20        | 20        | 19        |
| 36   | Puducherry                | 14        | 11        | 10        |
| Source:- SRS, Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India |                           |           |           |           |