

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2893
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH DECEMBER, 2018**

C-SECTION DELIVERIES

2893. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV:

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

- (a) whether caesarean section delivery adversely affects health of mother and the child, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether more deliveries are done through caesarean section in private hospitals in the country, if so, the details thereof along with reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether private hospitals carry out C-section deliveries without medical compulsion for financial advantages to them; and
- (d) if so, the punitive measures taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(a): Caesarean section is one of the most common surgeries in the world. It is assumed that 15% of the pregnancies will land into complication and may require surgical intervention.

However, as in other surgeries, caesarean section deliveries also have inherent risk of surgical and anesthetic complications.

(b): As per National Family Health Survey –IV (2015-16), Birth in Health Facility by Caesarean Section (%) in private health facility is 40.9% which is higher than public health facility where it is 11.9%. However, there are multiple reasons for higher rates of C-section.

WHO in its statement released in April 2015 states that at population level, caesarean section rates higher than 10% are not associated with reductions in maternal and new-born mortality rates.

- In this regard a communication vide OM M.12015/182/2015-MCH has been sent to all the State Principal Secretaries and Mission Directors of all States and UTs urging them to share the WHO statement with all the Obstetricians and Gynecologists working in their respective states. In addition States have been suggested to conduct periodic prescription audits in private sector which could also be extended to public sector.

- Government of India also has written vide OM M.12015/182/2015-MCH to Federation of Obstetrical and Gynecologists in India (FOGSI) to share the WHO statement among the Obstetricians and Gynecologists under the umbrella of FOGSI.
- The Government of India has enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 with the objective of registration and regulation of health care institutions including those in the private sector. Health being a state subject, it is the responsibility of the state to effectively implement the Act, however the centre provides continuous guidance, strict monitoring and directives for the regulation of high caesarean section rates.
- All CGHS empanelled hospitals are directed to display the information regarding ratio of deliveries by caesarean section vis-à-vis normal deliveries. A communication was sent in this regard vide OM Z15025/2017 to all the CGHS empanelled hospitals.

(c) & (d): Government of India has received complaints through public grievances regarding unethical practice of doctors for making money from unsuspecting women and pushing them towards surgical deliveries.

Health being a state subject, it is for the States to act on such incidences.