

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.150**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.06.2019

**INFANT MILK SUBSTITUTES**

150. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of infants in Delhi who have access to infant milk substitutes, feeding bottles and infant food;
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to cover all the infants thereunder;
- (c) the rate of infant mortality in Delhi for last ten years; and
- (d) the schemes initiated by the Government to ensure basic amenities for all round development of infants applicable in Delhi as on date?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a & b) No such data is maintained by this Ministry. However, as per the WHO's Global Strategy for Infant and Young Child Feeding, infants should be exclusively breastfed for the first six months of life to achieve optimal growth, development and health and thereafter, to meet their evolving nutritional requirements, infants should receive nutritionally adequate and safe complementary foods while breastfeeding continues for up to two years of age or beyond. The same is also recommended in the National Guidelines on Infant and Young Child Feeding.

Further, as per the Infant Milk Substitutes Feeding Bottles, and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1993, as amended in 2003, infant milk substitute or infant food should be used only on the advice of a health worker.

(c) As per the Sample Registration Survey of the Registrar General of India, the Infant Mortality Rates for the last ten years is as under:

	Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)									
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>ALL INDIA</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>33</b>
Delhi	35	33	30	28	25	24	20	18	18	16

(d) For all round development of infants, the Government is implementing following schemes in the country, including Delhi:

- (i) Anganwadi Services, which aims to improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age-group 0-6 years, pregnant women & lactating mothers and reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity and malnutrition. Under the Scheme, a package of six services is provided through a network of Anganwadi Centers, which include supplementary nutrition, pre-school non-formal education, nutrition & health education, immunization, health check-up and referral services.

(ii) Government has set up POSHAN Abhiyaan on 18.12.2017 for a three year time frame commencing from 2017-18 with an overall budget of Rs. 9046 Crore. To ensure a holistic approach, all 36 States/UTs and districts have been covered. The goals of POSHAN Abhiyaan are to achieve improvement in nutritional status of Children (0-6 years) among other target groups in a time bound manner. The targets pertaining to children (0-6 years) which includes infants are as under:

S.No	Objective	Target
1.	Prevent and reduce Stunting in children (0- 6 years)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
2.	Prevent and reduce under-nutrition (underweight prevalence) in children (0-6 years)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
3.	Reduce the prevalence of anemia among young Children(6-59 months)	By 9% @ 3% p.a.
4.	Reduce Low Birth Weight (LBW).	By 6% @ 2% p.a.

(iii) Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, which is a centrally sponsored Conditional Maternity Benefit scheme of the Ministry for pregnant and lactating women. Under the scheme, cash incentives are provided partly compensating for their wage loss subject to fulfilment of health and nutrition conditions. First and second instalment is payable during pregnancy while the third instalment is paid when the child has received first cycle of immunization of BCG, OPV, DPT and Hepatitis-B besides other fulfillment of other conditions.

(iv) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is implementing various Child Health Programmes at national level such as Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram ( JSSK), Special Newborn Care Units ( SNCU), Newborn Stabilization Units ( NSBU) , Kangaroo Mother Care ( KMC) units, Comprehensive Lactation Management Centers, Home Based Newborn Care, Village Health and Nutrition Days, MAA Programme, Universal Immunization Programme, etc.

(v) Food and Nutrition Board under the Ministry is engaged in creating awareness on health and nutrition issues with strong focus on 'Infant and Young Child Feeding' (IYCF). National Guidelines on Infant and Young Child Feeding, 2006, have been issued, through which optimal Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices are emphasised. Infant Milk Substitutes Feeding Bottles, and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1993, as amended 2003, has been enacted in the country to protect, promote and support breastfeeding and ensure proper use of infant foods.

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