

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

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 97  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2020  
INFANT DEATHS IN HOSPITALS**

**\*97. SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA:  
SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the recent cases of infant deaths in hospitals across the country particularly in Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the number of infants died in hospitals during the last three years, State/UT-wise including Rajasthan, Karnataka, Assam and Uttar Pradesh; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to curb such cases in the country particularly in Karnataka and Rajasthan?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 97 FOR 7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2020**

(a) In the month of December, 2019, and January, 2020, there were Newspaper reports of infant deaths in hospital of J. K. Lon Kota, Umaid Hospital Jodhpur, MDM Hospital Jodhpur, JLN hospital Ajmer, Rajasthan, Civil hospital Rajkot, Civil hospital Ahmedabad, Gujarat, Jhabua, Khandwa, Ratlam and Shajdol district of Madhya Pradesh and Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) Hospital wise data across states is not maintained centrally, however, as per Sample Registration System Report 2017, Infant Mortality Rate of India is 33 per 1000 live Births. State wise details of SRS 2015, 16 & 17 are placed at annexure.

(c) In order to address child mortality and morbidity, Government of India is implementing Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent health and Nutrition (RMNCAH+N) strategy in all States/UTs under National Health Mission.

The various interventions under RMNCHA+N strategy are as below:

1. Strengthening essential newborn care at all delivery points, establishment of Sick Newborn Care Units (SNCU), Newborn Stabilization Units (NBSU) and Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) units for care of sick and small babies.
2. Home Based Newborn Care (HBNC) and Home Based Care of Young Children (HBYC) by ASHAs to improve child rearing practices and to identify sick newborn and children.
3. The Government of India has launched POSHAN (Prime Minister overreaching scheme for holistic nourishment) Abhiyaan to address malnutrition through multi-sectoral action, behaviour change communication, training and capacity building of community workers. The Anemia Mukh Bharat strategy under POSHAN Abhiyaan has also been initiated with focus on life cycle approach, Iron and folic acid supplementation, demand generation and dashboard for monitoring the progress.

4. Early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding for first six months and appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices are promoted under Mothers' Absolute Affection (MAA) in convergence with Ministry of Women and Child Development. 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.
5. Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) is being supported to provide vaccination to children against life threatening diseases such as Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Polio, Tetanus, Hepatitis B, Measles, Rubella, Pneumonia and Meningitis caused by Haemophilus Influenzae B. The Rotavirus vaccination has also been rolled out in the country for prevention of Rota-viral diarrhoea. "Mission Indradhanush is targeted to immunize children who are either unvaccinated or partially vaccinated i.e. those that have not been covered during the rounds of routine immunization for various reasons. Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 2.0 is rolled-out as per road-map for achieving 90% full immunization coverage across the country.
6. All the children from 0 to 18 years of age are screened for 30 health conditions classified into 4Ds - Diseases, Deficiencies, Defects and Developmental delay under "Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakaram" (RBSK) to improve the quality of survival and to reduce out of pocket expenditure of families. District early intervention centre (DEIC) at district health facility level are established for confirmation and management of the 4D's.
7. National Deworming Day (NDD) is implemented biannually every year for deworming of children (one to nineteen year of age).
8. Defeat Diarrhoea (D2) initiative has been launched for promoting ORS and Zinc use and eliminating the diarrhoeal deaths by 2025.  
Social Awareness and Actions to Neutralize Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS) initiative for reduction of Childhood morbidity and mortality due to Pneumonia.
9. Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Days (VHSNDs) are observed for provision of maternal and child health services and awareness on maternal

and child Health and nutrition education through mass and social media to improve healthy practices and to generate demand for service uptake.

10. Name based tracking of mothers and children till two years of age is done through RCH portal to ensure complete antenatal, intranatal, postnatal care and immunization as per schedule.
11. 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 delivery including Caesarean section, post-natal care and treatment of sick infants up to one year of age. Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) is another maternity benefit programme under which cash incentive is provided to pregnant women and lactating mothers.

## Annexure

S. N.	States	Infant Mortality Rate		
		2015	2016	2017
	<b>ALL INDIA</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>33</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	37	34	32
2	A&N Islands	20	16	14
3	Arunachal Pradesh	30	36	42
4	Assam	47	44	44
5	Bihar	42	38	35
6	Chandigarh	21	14	14
7	Chhattisgarh	41	39	38
8	D&N Haveli	21	17	13
9	Daman & Diu	18	19	17
10	Delhi	18	18	16
11	Goa	9	8	9
12	Gujarat	33	30	30
13	Haryana	36	33	30
14	Himachal Pradesh	28	25	22
15	J & K	26	24	23
16	Jharkhand	32	29	29
17	Karnataka	28	24	25
18	Kerala	12	10	10
19	Lakshadweep	20	19	20
20	Madhya Pradesh	50	47	47
21	Maharashtra	21	19	19
22	Manipur	9	11	12
23	Meghalaya	42	39	39
24	Mizoram	32	27	15
25	Nagaland	12	12	7
26	Odisha	46	44	41
27	Puducherry	11	10	11
28	Punjab	23	21	21
29	Rajasthan	43	41	38
30	Sikkim	18	16	12
31	Tamil Nadu	19	17	16
32	Telangana	34	31	29
33	Tripura	20	24	29
34	Uttar Pradesh	46	43	41
35	Uttarakhand	34	38	32
36	W. Bengal	26	25	24