

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3383
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH MARCH, 2020**

ABORTION SERVICES

3383. DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to expand access to abortion services through functioning of public health services, adequate qualitative and unbiased services and increasing the number of trained service providers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that 11.5 million (73%) were medication abortions conducted outside of health facilities in 2015, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure quality care in abortion services including providing accurate information on the abortion pills and provisions for follow up care?

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

(a) & (b): Provision of Comprehensive Abortion Care (CAC) services is an important component of RMNCAH+N strategy of National Health Mission (NHM).

NHM provides support to the states and UTs for various activities to promote safe abortion:

- Provision of comprehensive safe abortion services at public health facilities like (Medical Colleges/DHs/SDHs/CHCs/24*7 PHCs/FRUs, etc.) where trained Medical Practitioners are posted. As per the records received from the States & UTs, there are total 10,782 public health facilities providing 1st trimester services (upto 12 weeks) and 4,213 public health facilities providing both 1st and 2nd trimester (upto 20 weeks) services. So far, 11,394 Medical Officers have been trained in CAC services
- Provision of funds to States & UTs for procurement of equipment and drugs including pregnancy detection kits (for early detection of pregnancy) and training of health providers.

- Capacity Building of ANMs, ASHAs to provide confidential counseling for safe abortion, post-abortion care and post-abortion contraception.
- Provision of funds for Information Education & Communication (IEC) material viz. CAC posters, Flipcharts, Leaflets, Asha/ANM booklets etc.
- Comprehensive Abortion Care Training and Service Delivery Guideline (2010) has been revised in 2018 and issued to all the States& UTs in the country to facilitate quality care.
- Guidance Handbook for ASHA and community health workers on Comprehensive Abortion Care (CAC) has been developed and disseminated to the States/ UTs.

(c): The data on Medical Abortions with Medical Methods of Abortion (MMA) drugs outside of health facilities is not available with the Ministry. However, as per NFHS-4 (2015-16), 27.4% abortions have been conducted outside of public and private health facilities

(d): Support is being provided to the States for Capacity Building of Medical officers in provision of Comprehensive Abortion Care including use of MMA drugs.

MMA guidelines are available online for perusal of service providers for accurate information on Abortion Pills and for provision of follow up.