

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3420
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2021**

DEATH CASES OF TRIBAL WOMEN AND CHILDREN

3420. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware regarding several death cases of tribal women and children in the country due to malnutrition and other health related issues;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases reported during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has observed that number of death cases of pregnant women, children and new born babies are increasing in tribal areas in Attappady, Kerala;
- (d) if so, the details of such cases reported in the state during the last five years, year-wise along with the major reasons for such deaths;
- (e) whether the Government has sought any reports from the State in this regard, if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether lack of medical facilities is major cause of such deaths and if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the details of financial assistance extended by the Union Government to provide nutritious food to women, pregnant women and children in Attappady, Kerala during the last five years, year-wise?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

- (a) & (b): Malnutrition is not a direct cause of deaths; however, it can increase morbidity and mortality by reducing resistance to infections.

As per latest Sample Registration System (SRS) bulletin of Registrar General of India, the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has declined from 122 in 2015-17 to 113 in 2016-18, Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) has declined from 32 in 2018 to 30 and Under-five Mortality Rate has

declined from 37 in 2017 to 36 in 2018. The State/UT wise details of MMR, Under-five MR and IMR are placed at Annexure- I, II & III.

In order to bring down MMR, IMR and Under-five MR, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) supports all States/UTs including Kerala to implement Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health and Nutrition (RMNCAH+N) strategy under National Health Mission (NHM) based on the annual Program Implementation Plans (PIPs) submitted by States/ UTs.

Steps taken by the Government to minimize maternal and child mortality rate are as under:

1. Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), a demand promotion and conditional cash transfer scheme which aims at promoting institutional delivery. Approximately one crore beneficiaries have been benefited under JSY Scheme annually.
2. Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK): Under JSSK every pregnant woman is entitled to free delivery, including caesarean section, in public health institutions along with the provision of free transport, diagnostics, medicines, other consumables & diet. More than one crore pregnant women have been benefited annually under JSSK scheme in public health facilities.
3. Monthly Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Days (VHSND): Community Outreach is envisaged through the Monthly Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Days (VHSND) for provision of maternal and child care services.
4. Facility Based New Born Care-Sick New-born Care Units (SNCUs) are established at District Hospital and Medical college level and New-born Stabilization Units (NBSUs) established at First Referral units (FRUs)/ Community Health Centres (CHC) for care of sick and small babies.
5. 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).
6. Universal Immunization programme (UIP) is implemented 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. Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) has been introduced in all the States and UTs.
7. Children from 0 to 18 years of age are screened for 30 health conditions (i.e. Diseases, Deficiencies, Defects and Developmental delay) under "Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakaram (RBSK)" to improve child survival. District Early Intervention Centre

(DEIC) at district health facility level is established for confirmation and management of children screened under RBSK.

8. 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.
9. Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF) has been launched for promoting ORS and Zinc use to reduce child diarrheal deaths.

Under NHM, there is a provision to formulate specific plans and allocate additional resources to tribal areas. The specific scheme such as Birth Waiting Homes (BWH) are established in remote and tribal areas to promote institutional delivery and improve access to healthcare facilities.

(c): As per the information received from the State of Kerala, the Government has not observed an increase in death cases of pregnant women, children and new born babies in tribal areas in Attappady, Kerala.

(d) to (f): This is not applicable since the State has not observed any increase in death cases of pregnant women, children and new born babies in tribal areas in Attappady, Kerala.

(g): The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) is implementing the Anganwadi Services Scheme of which the beneficiaries are the children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers. Funds are released under Supplementary Nutrition Programme of Anganwadi Services Scheme to all the States/UTs which includes the state of Kerala. Details of funds released to States/UTs under POSHAN Abhiyaan and ICDS Scheme from FY 2017-18 to FY 2020-21.

Amount in lakhs

Total Central Funds released to States/UTs from FY 2017-18 to FY 2020-21	
POSHAN Abhiyaan	ICDS scheme
5,31,279.08	34,00,721.54

Further, information related to the fund allocation to the blocks from the State is not maintained at the central level.

Annexure: 1

Maternal Mortality Rate as per latest SRS reports		
India/States	SRS (2015-17)	SRS (2016-18)
India	122	113
Andhra Pradesh	74	65
Assam	229	215
Bihar	165	149
Jharkhand	76	71
Gujarat	87	75
Haryana	98	91
Karnataka	97	92
Kerala	42	43
Madhya Pradesh	188	173
Chhattisgarh	-	159
Maharashtra	55	46
Odisha	168	150
Punjab	122	129
Rajasthan	186	164
Tamil Nadu	63	60
Telangana	76	63
Uttar Pradesh	216	197
Uttarakhand	89	99
West Bengal	94	98

Annexure II

Under-five Mortality Rate (As per SRS Report)					
States	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
India	45	43	39	37	36
Andhra Pradesh	40	39	37	35	33
Assam	66	62	52	48	47
Bihar	53	48	43	41	37
Chhattisgarh	49	48	49	47	45
Delhi	21	20	22	21	19
Gujarat	41	39	33	33	31
Haryana	40	43	37	35	36
Himachal Pradesh	36	33	27	25	23
Jammu & Kashmir	35	28	26	24	23
Jharkhand	44	39	33	34	34
Karnataka	31	31	29	28	28
Kerala	13	13	11	12	10
Madhya Pradesh	65	62	55	55	56
Maharashtra	23	24	21	21	22
Orissa	60	56	50	47	44
Punjab	27	27	24	24	23
Rajasthan	51	50	45	43	40
Tamil Nadu	21	20	19	19	17
Telangana	37	34	34	32	30
Uttar Pradesh	57	51	47	46	47
Uttarakhand	36	38	41	35	33
West Bengal	30	30	27	26	26
Source: Sample Registration System Report of Registrar General of India					

Annexure III

Infant Mortality Rate (As per SRS Report)						
States	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
ALL INDIA	39	37	34	33	32	30
Andhra Pradesh	39	37	34	32	29	25
A&N Islands	22	20	16	14	9	7
Arunachal Pradesh	30	30	36	42	37	29
Assam	49	47	44	44	41	40
Bihar	42	42	38	35	32	29
Chandigarh	23	21	14	14	13	13
Chhattisgarh	43	41	39	38	41	40
D&N Haveli	26	21	17	13	13	11
Daman & Diu	18	18	19	17	16	17
Delhi	20	18	18	16	13	11
Goa	10	9	8	9	7	8
Gujarat	35	33	30	30	28	25
Haryana	36	36	33	30	30	27
Himachal Pradesh	32	28	25	22	19	19
J & K	34	26	24	23	22	20
Jharkhand	34	32	29	29	30	27
Karnataka	29	28	24	25	23	21
Kerala	12	12	10	10	7	6
Lakshadweep	20	20	19	20	14	8
Madhya Pradesh	52	50	47	47	48	46
Maharashtra	22	21	19	19	19	17
Manipur	11	9	11	12	11	10
Meghalaya	46	42	39	39	33	33
Mizoram	32	32	27	15	5	3
Nagaland	14	12	12	7	4	3
Odisha	49	46	44	41	40	38
Puducherry	14	11	10	11	11	9
Punjab	24	23	21	21	20	19
Rajasthan	46	43	41	38	37	35
Sikkim	19	18	16	12	7	5
Tamil Nadu	20	19	17	16	15	15
Telangana	35	34	31	29	27	23
Tripura	21	20	24	29	27	21
Uttar Pradesh	48	46	43	41	43	41
Uttarakhand	33	34	38	32	31	27
W. Bengal	28	26	25	24	22	20
Source: Sample Registration System Bulletin of Registrar General of India						

