

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 739  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2024**

**PROGRESS OF THE NATIONAL FAMILY HEALTH SURVEY**

**739. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:**

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

- (a) the current status along with the timeline fixed for the completion of the National Family Health Survey-6 (NFHS-6);
- (b) the steps taken to ensure data accuracy and comprehensive coverage across urban and rural regions;
- (c) whether any preliminary findings from the NFHS-6 have highlighted areas for targeted health interventions and if so, details thereof along with response of the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the manner in which the insights from NFHS-6 contribute to shaping future health policies/ addressing emerging health challenges in the country?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (d): Ministry of Health and Family Welfare conducts an integrated survey namely National Family Health Survey (NFHS) with a periodicity of around three years. The NFHS provides national and state level data for several indicators and district level data for important indicators. The results help to assess the progress made over time for most of the indicators.

The field work for NFHS-6 was commenced in May, 2023. The NFHS-6 data collection is divided into two phases. Data collection work has already been completed for the States/UTs under phase-1 and 95% fieldwork completed in States/UTs included in phase-2.

A uniform sample design, which is representative at National, State/UT, and district level is adopted in each round of the survey. Overall sample size is decided based on several considerations, with the primary consideration being the requirement to provide estimates for indicators at the district, State/UT, and National levels. Several standard protocols and strategies are adopted in NFHS to minimize non-

sampling errors and maintain data quality such as, multi level monitoring and supervision of fieldwork; use of Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) for collecting data; centralized training for uniformity in survey implementation; standardized tools and procedures; Clinical, Anthropometric, and Biochemical (CAB) protocols followed as per international standards; secondary editing of data in the field; feedback to field teams based on real-time data, etc.

The NFHS also provides evidence on the effectiveness of ongoing health related programmes, which are implemented by the Government of India. It also helps in identifying new areas where policies and programmes is required. NFHS results contribute in effectively shaping the future health policies to address the emerging health challenges faced by the policy-makers and programme implementing agencies for setting the benchmarks.

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