

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3651  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21<sup>st</sup> MARCH, 2025**

**TRANSPARENCY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF HEALTH DATA**

**3651: DR. DHARAMVIRA GANDHI:**

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

- (a) the reasons for delays in the release of key health indicators such as the latest National Family Health Survey (NFHS) data and Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) updates as of 2024;
- (b) the steps being taken to ensure timely and transparent dissemination of critical health data to support evidence-based policymaking and public health initiatives; and
- (c) the impact of the said delays on initiatives such as the Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health Plus Nutrition (RMNCAH+N) strategy?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) conducts an integrated survey namely National Family Health Survey (NFHS) with a periodicity of around three years. The survey provides data on health and family welfare and associated domains like characteristics of the population; fertility and fertility preferences; family planning; infant and child mortality; maternal and child health; nutrition; morbidity and healthcare; women's empowerment, etc. It is a nationally important source of data for the purpose of monitoring performance of health programmes/schemes of Government of India. The NFHS-5 was conducted during 2019-21 and its Report was released in 2022. The NFHS-6 has been initiated timely. Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) is estimated based on the results of Sample Registration System (SRS) by Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India (ORGI). The Ministry ensures a timely and transparent dissemination of NFHS data by conducting regular follow-ups with the nodal agency

and regular review meetings at higher levels to monitor progress and oversee intermediary steps. For ensuring transparent dissemination, disaggregated data of NFHS in the Factsheets and Reports, along with unit level data is usually released for an NFHS. By ensuring the timely and transparent dissemination of data to the policymakers, the Ministry has implemented several initiatives under the Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health Plus Nutrition (RMNCAH+N) strategy to enhance health outcomes across these demographics. The key programs/initiatives includes Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK), Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA), Anemia Mukta Bharat (AMB), LaQshya Program, Delivery Points, Reproductive and Child health (RCH) Portal, Universal Immunization Programme (UIP), Midwifery Services Initiative, Poshan Abhiyaan etc.

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