

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2083
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH DECEMBER, 2025**

NATIONAL MIDWIFERY PROGRAMME

†2083 SHRI DARSHAN SINGH CHOUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Midwifery Programme(NMP) has achieved positive results in reducing maternal and infant mortality, promoting normal delivery, reducing the rate of unnecessary C-sections and ensuring dignified maternity services and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether due to negligence and the failure in organising new training camps, the programme has not been operated as scheduled and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is working on any special arrangement or plan to ensure regular implementation of this programme, timely commencement of training batches and timely achievement of targets; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) The National Midwifery programme has shown positive results across key maternal and child health indicators. The Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has reduced from 97 per lakh live births in the Sample Registration System (SRS 2018-20) to 88 per lakh live births as per the (SRS 2021–23). The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) has declined from 32 per 1000 live births in (SRS 2018) to 25 per 1000 live births, as per (SRS 2023). Further Institutional birth has increased from 78.9% in NFHS-4 to 88.6% as per NFHS-5, reflecting improved access to quality and dignified maternity care services.

(b) to (d) Under National Health Mission(NHM) , Government of India (GoI) has undertaken following proactive measures to strengthen Midwifery initiatives in the country;

- Establishment of Midwifery-Led Care Units (MLCUs) in high–case-load public health facilities to promote quality, respectful, and women-centred maternity care.
- Establishment of National Midwifery Training Institutes (NMTIs) and State Midwifery Training Institutes (SMTIs) across the country to conduct regular and

scheduled training of Midwifery Educators (MEs) and Nurse Practitioner Midwives (NPMs) during the year.

- The Government of India has released various guidelines like Mentoring Guidelines, Operationalization of MLCUs and Learning Resource Package for MEs and NPMs to strengthen Midwifery Initiative in the country.
