

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2172  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**INDIA'S RANKING ON HEALTH INDICATORS**

**2172. SHRI M.B. RAJESH:  
SHRI PONGULETI SRINIVASA REDDY:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of India's low ranking in the list of 145 nations, based on the data on factors such as life expectancy and causes of death, received from the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the World Bank;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the country has lagged behind different developing countries including Nepal and Bangladesh in key health indicators, if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the health standards in the country

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

(a) & (b): No such information has been received in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(c): Certain key health indicators of India in comparison to some developing countries including Nepal and Bangladesh from the publication 'THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN 2015' brought out by UNICEF, are annexed. The reasons for low performance include issues pertaining to adequacy of access and quality of healthcare, affordability, regional disparities, other socio cultural determinants of health etc.

(d): The Government of India under National Health Mission has taken several steps to improve the health standards in the country. These include: promoting institutional deliveries, strengthening of essential and emergency obstetric care services, strengthening referral systems, launching of Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram, Integrated Management of Neo-natal & Childhood Illness, engagement of ASHAs (Accredited Social Health Activist) in the community level, Navajati Shishu Suraksha Karyakram, setting up of sick new born care units at district hospitals, promoting exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding, strengthening routine immunisation programme, focussing on reduction in morbidity and mortality due to acute respiratory infections and diarrhoeal diseases, name based tracking of pregnant women and children, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram, strengthening of infrastructure, maternal death review, organising village health and nutrition days, introduction of integrated mother and child health card etc.

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## ANNEXURE

### **Certain key health indicators of India and some developing countries**

Country	Life expectancy at birth ( in years) 2013	Infant mortality rate 2013	Maternal mortality ratio 2013 ( Adjusted)	Underweight (%) under age five years (2009-2013)
India	66	41	190	44
China	75	11	32	3
Vietnam	76	19	49	12
Bangladesh	71	33	170	37
Nepal	68	32	190	29
Pakistan	67	69	170	32
Sri Lanka	74	8	29	26

Source: THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN 2015, UNICEF.