

Mission of India to the United Nations in New York and Embassy of India, Riyadh are enquiring into the matter. So far, all these efforts have been unsuccessful in locating the ship's crew.

Maternal Mortality Rate

94. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- the maternal mortality rate (MMR) in the country as on date;
- whether during the last decade the MMR is on decline;
- if not, the reasons thereof and steps being taken in this regard; and
- the country's position in regard to MMR among South Asian countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (d) There is no regular and standard estimation of Maternal Mortality in India as well as in other developing countries. A National Family Health Survey conducted in 1992-93 provides the estimate of MMR as 437 per 1,00,000 live births. The confidence interval for this estimate is 334 to 540. Therefore, in the absence of regular and accurate estimates it is not possible to state the changes in the level of MMR in the country over the years.

The ongoing maternal and child health programme has been strengthened with the launching of Child Survival and Safe Motherhood (CSSM) Program in August, 1992. The objective is to improve the health status of women and children and reducing maternal and infant mortality and morbidity. The interventions include tetanus toxoid immunization of pregnant women, iron and folic acid tablets for

prevention and treatment of anemia among pregnant women, training of dais, provision of Dai Kit to ensure clean delivery, promotion of birth spacing and strengthening of the health care institutions at the sub-district level for providing emergency obstetric care of pregnant women referred with maternal complications.

The estimated Maternal Mortality Ratio among the South Asia Countries is as under:-

Sl. No. of the Country	Maternal Mortality Rate
1. India	570
2. Bangladesh	850
3. Bhutan	1,600
4. Nepal	1,500
5. Pakistan	340
6. Sri Lanka	140

Minister's Discretionary Grant

95. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- the total amount spent on the treatment of poor people from Minister's Discretionary Grant during the last two years indicating the names of beneficiaries, State-wise; and
- the details of their illness and names of the hospitals where they have been treated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b)

Year: 1995-96

Sl. No.	Name of Beneficiary	Illness	Name of Hospital	Amount of grant
1	2	3	4	5
State: Andhra Pradesh		Total Expenditure—Rs. 5,000/-		
1.	Sh. P.B. Reddy	Kidney	Nizam's Instt. of Med. Sciences, Hyderabad	5,000/-
State: Assam		Total Expenditure—Rs. 81,000/-		
2.	Shri Hari Kalita	Heart	A.I.I.M.S., New Delhi	20,000/-
3.	Smt. Shoba Khaund	Heart	-do-	9,000/-
4.	Ms. Salmin Barlaskar	Heart	-do-	8,000/-
5.	Baby Hilly Das	Heart	-do-	4,000/-
6.	Miss Arfin Sultana	Kidney	-do-	20,000/-
7.	Sh. Khilod Kakati	Heart	-do-	20,000/-