

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:336
ANSWERED ON:21.02.2006
DECLINING SEX RATIO
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the declining sex ratio in the country particularly Gujarat and other Western States as female foetus is being removed on sex determination;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the National Commission for Women has highlighted this problem to Government;
- (d) if so, whether the Commission has made any recommendation in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the action taken by the Government on such recommendations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a)&(b) The Government is aware of the declining sex ratio primarily due to sex determination and elimination of female foetus. Census 2001 figures reveal that the situation is alarming in respect of girl child population in the age group of 0-6 in the country particularly Gujarat and other Western States.

(c)&(d) National Commission for Women had convened a National Conference of State Secretaries of Health, WCD, DGPs and NGOs on the implementation of the PC & PNDT Act. The report has been recently received by the Government. The report contains the recommendation of the Commission on various issues such as advocacy, awareness, monitoring, implementation, and modification of the PC & PNDT Act and Rules.

(e) A number of steps have been taken by the Government like:-

- (i) Setting up of National Inspection and Monitoring Committee,
- (ii) Setting up of National Support and Monitoring Cell,
- (iii) Sensitization of the Appropriate Authorities,
- (iv) Sensitization of the Medical Community,
- (v) Instructions on sale of Ultrasound Machines,
- (vi) Awareness Generation against the practice of pre- natal determination of sex and female foeticide through Print and Electronic media,
- (vii) Training of Judiciary,
- (viii) Involvement of District Magistrates to review the implementation of the PC & PNDT Act.