

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:151  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2005  
FEMALE FOETICIDE IN NORTHERN STATES  
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna;Patil Shri Shrinivas Dadasaheb

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

- (a) whether female foeticide is high among educated mothers particularly in Northern States as reported in the `Hindustan Times` dated October 31, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details of the study conducted in this regard, State-wise;
- (c) whether Gender testing kit is available in international market which has been recently introduced by an American company;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to ban the sale of this kit in the country;
- (e) whether the Union Government proposes to give directions to the State Government for the Constitution of districts level committees to monitor such illegal activities;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the steps being taken by the Union Government to curb this evil?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) & (b) Yes, sir. A study conducted by Christian Medical Association of India in Delhi shows that the sex ratio at birth is lower for the women with more number of years of schooling as indicated below:

Years of schooling of mother	Sex ratio at birth
0-7 Years	840
8-10 Years	690
11-15 years	807
more than 15 years	763

Similarly, analysis of census data done by Centre for Women Studies shows that the more educated the mother, the greater the chance that she will resort to female foeticide, especially in the north.

(c) to (d) Yes sir. All Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques are covered under the Pre-conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques Act (PC & PNDT Act) and the Appropriate Authorities appointed at district / sub- district level are empowered to take legal action in this regard.

(e) to (g) Under PC & PNDT Act, already District Appropriate Authorities & District Advisory Committees have been constituted to monitor the implementation of the Act at district level.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has undertaken training of trainers from State Judicial Academies to train lower judiciary, National Inspection and Monitoring Committee has also been reconstituted in March, 2005. It undertakes periodical visits to the districts to see implementation of the Act. The National Surveillance Cell for monitoring the clinics at the grass-root level and for checking the offenders is being set up.

Besides, a number of activities to create awareness on the issue are being undertaken. The initiative include meeting with the

organizations working against sex selection, involvement of the medical professionals, religious leaders to spread the message, requesting police training academies and schools to include the issues in curriculum of their training, telecasting of PNDT spots on private satellite channels and Doordarshan, and involvement of elected representatives etc.