

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1860

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2007

INFANT MORTALITY

Annayyagari Shri Sai Prathap; Bhakta Shri Manoranjan; Vallabhaneni Shri Balashowry

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

- (a) whether studies conducted by the Registration Survey of the Registrar General of the Census revealed the high infant mortality rate of the girl child as compared to the boy child;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, State-wise and gender-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken/to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

- (a) As per the information furnished by Registrar General of India, according to the Sample Registration System (SRS), high infant mortality has been observed for the girl child as compared to the boy child.
- (b) As per Annexure.
- (c) A number of steps have been taken by the Government like the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) which aims at holistic development of children below six years, and focuses on reduction in incidence in mortality, morbidity and malnutrition. Moreover, Government of India has been implementing several programmes/schemes like National Diarrhea Disease Control Programme; National Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) Control Programme; Vitamin-A Supplementation; Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation; Promotion of breast feeding etc. Besides, a massive awareness campaign on the importance of the girl child has also been initiated to enhance her value and ensure her overall welfare.