

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3020
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2019**

DEATHS CAUSED BY PNEUMONIA

**3020. SHRI MOHAN S. DELKAR:
SHRI SANJAY JADHAV:
SHRI RANJEETSINGH HINDURAO NAIK NIMBALKAR:
SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE:**

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

- (a) whether India stands second in the world with regard to deaths of children caused by pneumonia, if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether the Union Government has compiled the data of such deaths during the last three years, State/UT-wise including Dadar and Nagar Haveli and Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether seven lakh infants die every year in the rural areas of the country due to diseases that are preventable or treatable particularly pneumonia, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether any assessment has been made regarding the shortage of specialist doctors and hospitals for the treatment of such diseases, State/UT-wise and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the corrective measures being taken by the Government along with the time by which the appointment of new specialist doctors are proposed to be issued; and
- (f) the other concrete measures being taken by the Government to control the increasing number of pneumonia cases?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): As per the UNICEF analysis 2019, India stands second in the world in regard to deaths of children caused by Pneumonia. As per this analysis, in 2018 there were 127,000 child pneumonia deaths in the country.

In November 2019, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched SAANS (Social Awareness and Actions to Neutralize Pneumonia Successfully) Initiative to accelerate action to reduce deaths due to Childhood Pneumonia under Reproductive, Maternal, and Newborn, Child, Adolescent health and Nutrition (RMNCHA+N) program of National Health Mission.

(b): The death in under 5 children due to Pneumonia reported by States/UTs in Health Management Information System (HMIS) for last three years is at Annexure 1.

(c): As per the Sample Registration System 2017, Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) is 33 per 1000 live birth which translate into 8 lakh infant deaths in a year and out of this estimated 1.2 lakh deaths are due to pneumonia which are mostly preventable or treatable.

(d) & (e): Public Health and Hospitals being a State subject, all the administrative and personnel matters, including recruitment of specialist doctors at Public Health Facilities lies with the State Governments. Also, shortage of doctors in Public Health Facilities varies from State to State depending upon their policies and context. However, as per Bulletin on Rural Health Statistics in India 2019, States/UTs wise shortage of specialist doctors is at Annexure 2.

Under National Health Mission (NHM), financial and technical support is provided to States/UTs to strengthen their healthcare systems with support for recruitment of doctors including specialist on contractual basis, based on the requirements posed by States/UTs in their Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) within their overall resource envelope.

Under NHM, States/UTs are encouraged to adopt flexible norms for engaging doctors for Public Health Facilities. Financial support is also provided to States/UTs for providing performance-based incentives, hard area allowance, providing accommodation and transport facilities in rural and remote areas etc for engaging doctors in Public Health Facilities.

(f): Under National Health Mission, there is special provision to hire specialist doctors on contract basis. Beside this the Government of India is implementing following interventions under National Health Mission to address Childhood Pneumonia:

- SAANS (Social Awareness and Actions to Neutralize Pneumonia Successfully) Initiative to accelerate action to reduce deaths due to Childhood Pneumonia. The SAANS initiative encompasses a three tiered strategy: i) National Childhood Pneumonia Management Guideline on treatment and management of Childhood Pneumonia; ii) Skill building and training of service providers for identification and standardized management of Pneumonia; and iii) a 360⁰ communication SAANS Campaign to ensure greater awareness on childhood Pneumonia among families and parents in order to trigger behaviour change and improve care seeking.
- Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) focuses on Measles, Haemophilus Influenzae (B) and Pneumococcal Vaccine for prevention of pneumonia.
- Early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding for first six months and appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices are promoted under Mothers' Absolute Affection (MAA) initiative.
- Facility based-Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (F-IMNCI) training to build capacity of Medical Officer and Nurses in Primary Health Centres, First Referral Unit, Community Health Centres, and District Hospital on Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) Management.

Annexure 1

Data of number of under 5 deaths due to Pneumonia as per HMIS

S.No	States	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	A & N Islands	4	10	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	163	576	437
3	Arunachal Pradesh	6	10	12
4	Assam	448	1050	793
5	Bihar	470	836	544
6	Chandigarh	11	45	51
7	Chhattisgarh	565	669	646
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	11	26	17
9	Daman & Diu		0	2
10	Delhi	296	817	792
11	Goa	6	11	7
12	Gujarat	520	1337	1166
13	Haryana	184	138	456
14	Himachal Pradesh	56	52	68
15	Jammu & Kashmir	38	45	114
16	Jharkhand	100	225	236
17	Karnataka	372	691	625
18	Kerala	5	157	111
19	Lakshadweep	1	0	2
20	Madhya Pradesh	1497	1907	1977
21	Maharashtra	781	980	1015
22	Manipur	12	13	9
23	Meghalaya	632	429	409
24	Mizoram	75	85	67
25	Nagaland	24	31	29
26	Odisha	1012	1125	1262
27	Puducherry	4	52	42
28	Punjab	130	205	153
29	Rajasthan	1482	1676	1198
30	Sikkim	3	6	11
31	Tamil Nadu	89	396	267
32	Telangana	65	189	182
33	Tripura	98	81	57
34	Uttar Pradesh	118	990	568
35	Uttarakhand	14	32	49
36	West Bengal	723	1390	1575
	All India	10015	16282	14949

Annexure 2

TOTAL SPECIALISTS AT CHCs (Total Specialists [Surgeons, OB&GY, Physicians & Paediatricians])						
S. No.	State/UT	(As on 31st March, 2018)				
		Required ¹	Sanctioned	In Position	Vacant	Shortfall
		[R]	[S]	[P]	[S-P]	[R-P]
1	Andhra Pradesh	772	533	384	149	388
2	Arunachal Pradesh	252	NA	4	NA	248
3	Assam	688	NA	158	NA	530
4	Bihar	600	NA	82	NA	518
5	Chhattisgarh	676	652	57	595	619
6	Goa	16	5	10	*	6
7	Gujarat	1452	1177	118	1059	1334
8	Haryana	452	59	17	42	435
9	Himachal Pradesh	364	NA	4	NA	360
10	Jammu & Kashmir	336	344	256	88	80
11	Jharkhand	684	684	92	592	592
12	Karnataka	824	824	498	326	326
13	Kerala	908	30	40	*	868
14	Madhya Pradesh	1236	1236	248	988	988
15	Maharashtra	1444	823	485	338	959
16	Manipur	92	4	3	1	89
17	Meghalaya	112	3	9	*	103
18	Mizoram	36	33	0	33	36
19	Nagaland	84	NA	8	NA	76
20	Odisha	1508	1529	253	1276	1255
21	Punjab	604	593	105	488	499
22	Rajasthan	2352	1731	565	1166	1787
23	Sikkim	8	NA	0	NA	8
24	Tamil Nadu	1540	NA	210	NA	1330
25	Telangana	364	320	112	208	252
26	Tripura	88	0	2	*	86
27	Uttarakhand	268	268	29	239	239
28	Uttar Pradesh	3288	2099	192	1907	3096
29	West Bengal	1392	669	125	544	1267
30	A & N Islands	16	9	0	9	16
31	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0
32	D & N Haveli	8	0	0	0	8
33	Daman & Diu	8	6	3	3	5
34	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	12	0	0	0	12
36	Puducherry	12	4	5	*	7
	All India² / Total	22496	13635	4074	10051	18422

Notes: NA: Not Available. All India figures for Vacancy and Shortfall are the totals of State-wise Vacancy and Shortfall ignoring surplus in some States / UTs

¹ Four per Community Health Centre as per IPHS norms * Surplus

² For calculating the overall percentages of vacancy and shortfall, the States/UTs for which manpower position is not available, are excluded