

Reduction of seats in Veer Surendra Sahay Medical College, Sambalpur

†3741. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of seats meant for the students are being reduced in Veer Surendra Sahay Sambalpur Medical College located in Burla, in district of Orissa;
- (b) whether it has resulted in utter discontentment among the people;
- (c) if so, the facts thereof;
- (d) whether the State Government has submitted any memorandum or letter of request to the Centre for not reducing the number of seats; and
- (e) whether Centre would take any steps for not to reduce the number of seats in this famous college of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e) The Centre Government has granted permission for the admission of 3rd batch of MBBS students for the increased intake from 107 to 150 for academic year 2009-10 at Veer Surendra Sahay Medical College, Burla, Orissa.

Under five mortality figures

3742. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that under five mortality figures are considered critical indicators of children's well being;
- (b) if so, what is India's rating in this regard; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that India's ranking slid this year from 52 in 2006 to 72 deaths per 1000 live births?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Globally the under - 5 mortality rate is a leading indicator of the level of child health and overall development in a country.

(b) and (c) According to UNICEF's State of World's Children, 2009 Report, the under five mortality for India for the year 2007 is 72 per 1000 live births and is placed at rank 49. According to the UNICEF's Report 2008, its under five mortality was 76 per 1000 live births for the year 2006 and was placed at rank 49 in descending order with reference to the under five mortality rate.

Neo-natal deaths

3743. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the current rate of neo-natal deaths in the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that 40 per cent of the children die in the first week itself; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, what are the reasons for (a) and (b) above and the steps taken to address the problem?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The reported Neo-natal Mortality Rate as per Sample Registrar Survey (SRS), Registrar General of India (RGI), Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2007 for India, is 36 per thousand live births. There is no independent data available for early neo-natal deaths.

(c) The primary causes of neo-natal deaths are

- Sepsis,
- Low birth weight and
- Asphyxia.

The Reproductive and Child Health programme (RCH) II [2005-10] under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) [2005-12], comprehensively integrates interventions that improve child health and addresses factors contributing to mortality amongst children.

The Components of child health programme which help reduce child morbidity and mortality are as follows:

- (i) Essential newborn care
- (ii) Immunization
- (iii) Infant and young child feeding
- (iv) Vitamin A supplementation and Iron and Folic Acid supplementation
- (v) Early detection and appropriate management of Acute Respiratory Infections, Diarrhoea and other infections
- (vi) Integrated Management of Neo-natal and Childhood Illnesses (IMNCI) and Pre-Service IMNCI.
- (vii) Facility Based New Born Care.

Increase in one-time payment for Health Card

3744. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has increased the one-time payment for Health Card for ex-Members of Parliament;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether increase of one-time payment of more than 500 per cent is justified as compared to pension received by MPs; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken to reduce the payment with immediate effect?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) Subsequent to implementation of the recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay