

Death of Infants

†*459. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that three lakh infants die every year in the country in the first minute of their birth;
- (b) if so, whether any State-wise enquiry has been conducted in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) The number of infants dying in the first minute of their birth in a year is not available. However, as per one of the studies conducted by Indian Council of Medical Research, 39% of the neonatal deaths take place on first day of life. Applying this percentage to the estimates neo-natal deaths, the indication is that about 3.57 lakhs infants die on the first day of their birth.

(b) and (c) No State wise enquiry has been conducted. However, as per the Report on Causes of Death in India, 2001-03, released by the Registrar General of India, the prominent causes of death among neonates are prenatal condition (71%) respiratory infection (15%) other infections and parasitic diseases (6%) diarrhoeal diseases (3%) and congenital anomalies (3%).

Doctors in the country

†*460. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of doctors in the country;
- (b) whether this number also includes the names of doctors who have expired or migrated;
- (c) the method adopted to find out the actual number of active doctors;
- (d) whether any proposal of the Medical Council of India (MCI) regarding renewing the registration of doctors every five year, is pending with Government; and
- (e) if so, by when Government would take any decision after considering the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) and (b) As per information available from Medical Council of India, the total number of registered allopathic doctors are approximately 7.48 lakhs whereas approximately 5.5 lakhs doctors are estimated to be presently in practice in the country.

(c) As per provisions of Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, State Medical Councils made necessary changes in the respective State Medical Register on account of death,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.