

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MAHADEV S. KHANDELA): (a) According to information received from Ministry of Mines, information regarding population affected/displaced due to acquisition of land for mining is not maintained since State Government grant mineral concessions as the owner of minerals and relief and rehabilitation measures are treated as integral to the conditions of grant of lease.

(b) to (d) Central Government has enunciated National Mineral Policy 2008 which seeks to develop a sustainable framework for optimum utilization of the country's natural mineral resources for the industrial growth in the country and at the same time improving the life of people living in the mining areas, which are generally located in the backward and tribal regions of the country.

NMP 2008 also enunciates that special care will be taken to protect the interest of host and tribal population through developing models of stakeholder interest based on best international practice. Further Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Land Resources has informed that the National Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy, 2007 aims to minimize displacement and to promote, as far as possible least displacing alternatives. It also ensures adequate rehabilitation package & expeditious implementation of the rehabilitation process with the, active participation of the affected families.

#### **Decreasing sex-ratio in country**

909. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sex-ratio is alarmingly decreasing in the country;

(b) if so, the details of sex ratio for the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for high number of incidence of female foeticide and the steps taken to prevent it; and

(d) the details thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Details of sex-ratio in the Country and State-wise, as per Census 1981, 1991 and 2001 are given in the Statement (*See below*). This indicates that sex ratio has declined from 934 (as per 1981 census) to 927 (as per 1991 census) and has increased to 933 (as per 2001 census).

(c) and (d) The reasons for high number of incidence of female foeticide in India include a deep rooted traditional son preference, continued practice of dowry and concern for safety of the girl child and exploitation and abuse of women and girl children.

In order to curb female foeticide and improve the sex ratio, Government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy which includes legislative measures, advocacy, awareness generation and programmes for socio-economic empowerment of women.

Under the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994, sex selective abortions are made punishable. The Government in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is responsible for administration of this Act and its implementation is the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Further, foeticide is also punishable under Section 315 of Indian Penal Code (IPC), with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years, or with fine, or with both.

Legislations such as Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 seek to penalise the perpetrators of these social evils.

As a part of the measures taken to change the mind set of society, Government of India has been implementing on a pilot basis 'Dhanalakshmi', scheme for incentivising birth of the Girl Child. A number of States have been implementing their own schemes to incentivise the birth of a girl child and encourage families to place a premium on her education and development through Conditional Cash Transfer schemes.

Socio-economic empowerment of women is essential for making informed decisions and for change of the mind sets. The Government of India has undertaken a number of initiatives for this, such as Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP), The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) and loans through the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh. This should go a long way in empowering women and enable them to take decisions about the birth of children, their spacing, retain girl children and improve the nutritional and educational status.

To create national awareness on issues relating to girl child, in 2009, Ministry of Women and Child Development has declared January 24 as the National Girl Child Day. On this day, besides the Central Government, the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations undertake advocacy measures to improve the status of girl child in their respective States/Union Territories.

**Statement**

*State-wise details of Sex Ratio in India*

(Sex Ratio: Number of Female per 1000 Males)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	1981	1991	2001
1	2	3	4	5
	<b>India</b>	934	927	933
1.	Andhra Pradesh	975	972	978
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	862	859	901
3.	Assam	910	923	932
4.	Bihar	948	907	921
5.	Chhattisgarh	996	985	990
6.	Goa	975	967	960
7.	Gujarat	942	934	921
8.	Haryana	870	865	861
9.	Himachal Pradesh	973	976	970
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	892	896	900
11.	Jharkhand	940	922	941
12.	Karnataka	963	960	964
13.	Kerala	1032	1036	1058
14.	Madhya Pradesh	921	912	920
15.	Maharashtra	937	934	922
16.	Manipur	971	958	978
17.	Meghalaya	954	955	975
18.	Mizoram	919	921	938
19.	Nagaland	863	886	909
20.	Orissa	981	971	972
21.	Punjab	879	882	874
22.	Rajasthan	919	910	922

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Sikkim	835	878	875
24.	Tamil nadu	977	974	986
25.	Tripura	946	945	950
26.	Uttar Pradesh	882	876	898
27.	Uttaranchal	936	936	964
28.	West Bengal	911	917	934
<b>Union Territories</b>				
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	760	818	846
2.	Chandigarh	769	790	773
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	974	952	811
4.	Daman and Diu	1062	969	709
5.	Delhi	808	827	821
6.	Lakshadweep	975	943	947
7.	Pondicherry	985	979	1001

#### **Anganwadi workers and helpers in villages**

910. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government recognizes the significance of voluntary efforts put in by Anganwadi Workers and Helpers in the area of child care and development in the village;

(b) if so, the reasons for not acceding to their basic demands for increasing the salary and improving their service conditions;

(c) whether it is not a fact that workers in Mini-Anganwadis get only Rs. 250/- per month; and

(d) if so, the rationale or justification that the Ministry has to pay this meagre amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) ICDS Scheme envisages the Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Helpers (AWHs) as "honorary workers" from the local community who come forward to render their services, on part-time basis in the area of child care and development.