

capacity (from 150 to 250), increase in age of teaching faculty, etc. to augment the training capacity both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

Condition of Government health centres across the country

2271. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government health centres across the country have a pathetic record in infant care;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there have been cases of deliveries at the hospital gates and dogs and cats entering and sniffing newborn babies in the delivery rooms;

(c) if so, how many cases of child deaths and neo natal deaths have come to knowledge of Government during the last three years from the Government hospitals; and

(d) what action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) Provision of infant care is one of the essential activities in all the health facilities where deliveries take place. The infant care is provided by way of improving skills of health care providers and strengthening the facilities with necessary infrastructure and equipments. At present there are 274 Special newborn care units (SNCUs), 1124 newborn stabilization units (NBSUs) and 7413 newborn care corners (NBCCs) at various levels.

(b) to (d) There is no report from the State Government/UTs regarding any incidence of deliveries occurring at the hospital gates or sniffing of newborn babies by dogs and cats in the delivery rooms.

Action against producers of synthetic milk

†2272. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the business of making synthetic milk has touched billions of rupees;

(b) if so, whether this figure swell during the festivals;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the steps taken so far by Government for its prevention; and

(d) the number of offenders and details of action taken against them in this regard during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) and (b) There is no such food item defined as Synthetic Milk under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, Rules and Regulations, 2011. This term is used in media to refer to mixtures prepared and sold by unscrupulous elements using certain chemical compounds which look like milk.

(c) The standards of different classes of milk have been prescribed under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, Rules and Regulations, 2011. As per clause 2.1.1.(10) of Chapter 2 of Food Safety And Standards (Prohibition And Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011, sale of milk and milk products containing substances not found in milk except as prescribed in the said Regulations, is prohibited. The sale of spurious/adulterated food items including milk is punishable under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

(d) The State/U.T. Governments are responsible for implementation of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, Rules and Regulations, 2011. They have been requested from time to time to keep a strict vigil on quality/adulteration of milk and milk products for presence of chemical substances and take necessary action against such unscrupulous traders.

No specific data about action taken against persons involved in milk adulteration is centrally maintained. However, as per the information made available by the States/U.Ts., the number of prosecution launched and number of conviction in respect of adulteration of all food products including milk during 2008-2010 is as follows:

Year	No. of prosecution launched	No. of convictions
2008 *	6506	1034
2009 **	11061	1942
2010 ***	7601	1181

*- Does not include information from Lakshadweep and Rajasthan.

** - Does not include information from Lakshadweep and Manipur.

*** - Does not include information from Haryana, H.P. J & K & M.P.