

- The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology has been requested to block sex selection advertisements on websites.
- The National Inspection and Monitoring Committee (NIMC) has been reconstituted and inspections of ultrasound diagnostic facilities have been intensified. Inspections have been carried out in many States including Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh.
- The Government is rendering financial support to the States and UTs for Information, Education and Communication campaigns and for strengthening structures for the implementation of the Act under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).
- States have been advised to focus on Districts/Blocks/Villages with low Child Sex Ratio to ascertain the causes, plan appropriate Behaviour Change Communication campaigns and effectively implement provisions of the PC & PNDT Act.
- Religious leaders, women achievers etc. are involved in the campaign against skewed child sex ratio and discrimination of the girl child.

**Increase in cases of non-polio Acute Flaccid Paralysis**

3180. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

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

- (a) whether Government is undertaking any studies to investigate the sudden increase in the incidents of non-polio Acute Flaccid Paralysis;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government is undertaking to provide compensation or medical support to the victims of non-polio Acute Flaccid Paralysis; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.H. KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) to (c) There is no sudden increase in number of non-polio Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) cases. Prior to 2004,

AFP case selection was based on clinical diagnosis *i.e* cases presenting with one of the following were included as AFP and investigated to rule out poliomyelitis - Guillan Barre' syndrome, poliomyelitis, transverse myelitis and Traumatic neuritis. Based on the recommendation of the India Expert Advisory Group on polio in 2004, the AFP case selection criteria was broadened to syndromic reporting to increase the sensitivity of surveillance in India. Simultaneously, the number of AFP reporting sites have also increased from 21,000 in 2004 to more than 38,000 in 2013 which has resulted in better reporting of AFP cases.

(d) and (e) Under the Public health system established in the country, all Acute Flaccid Paralysis cases, whether Polio or non-polio, are provided free medical care at all public health facilities including corrective surgery, regular physiotherapy and rehabilitation.

#### **Shortage of anti-rabies vaccines**

3181. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

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

(a) whether there is shortage of antirabies vaccines in some States including Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount allocated, released and spent for this purpose, State-wise in the Eleventh and Twelfth Plan period, year-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken to make it available at all the PHCs in all the States?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Anti-rabies vaccine is manufactured in adequate quantity both in public and private sector to meet the requirement in the country.

(c) and (d) Health is a State subject. Therefore, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to ensure availability of anti-rabies vaccine. However, under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) funds are provided to States for procurement of drugs including anti-rabies vaccine to make up for any shortages. State Governments have also been advised to procure and supply anti-rabies vaccine out of the normal health budget. In case of emergency, untied funds