

have been showing declining trend as per SRS Bulletin of Registrar General of India as indicated below:—

Year	Birth Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
2000	25.8	68
2001	25.4	66
2002	25.0	64

#### **US refusal for Indian AIDS Drugs**

129. SHRI RAMAMUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:  
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

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

(a) whether it is a fact the US Food and Drug Administration refused to give its approval for use of WHO-approved AIDS drug combinations manufactured by Indian drug manufacturers in US-funded programmes; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken through diplomatic and political channels, to convince USA to use these drugs in US sponsored or funded programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKALAKSHMI): (a) and (b) There is no information available with the Government that AIDS drug combinations of Indian manufacturers, approved by WHO, under its pre-qualification scheme, are being refused by US, FDA for their acceptance under US funded Programmes for supply for AIDS drugs. It is, however, understood that for supply of AIDS drugs to developing countries, against the funds provided under US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) tentative approval of US, FDA about safety and efficacy standards of these drugs would be required.

#### **Council to regulate physiotherapy**

†30. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 776 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th July, 2003 and state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.