

NFHS report on educated and wealthy women

2549. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recently conducted National Family Health Survey (NFHS) has found that more educated and wealthy women received better medical care and had institutional births;

(b) whether it is a fact that their children received full immunization and had less chances of being stunted in growth and weight;

(c) whether it is reflection on the way various measures, introduced by Government to feed and nurse pregnant women, are implemented; and

(d) if not, in what manner these would be explained?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) and (b) Data from National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-4 (2015-16), India fact sheet reveal that Institutional birth has shown an increasing trend with mother's education and household wealth quintile as given below:-

- (i) 62% of women having no education delivered in institution.
- (ii) 74% of the women completed primary education delivered in institution.
- (iii) 90% of women who have completed secondary or above education delivered in institution.
- (iv) 60% of the women of lowest wealth quintile delivered in institution.
- (v) 75% of the women of second lowest wealth quintile delivered in institution.
- (vi) 85% of the women of middle wealth quintile delivered in institution.
- (vii) 91% of the women of fourth wealth quintile delivered in institution.
- (viii) 95% of the women of highest wealth quintile delivered in institution.

Similar trend observed in case of full immunisation of Children (12-23 Months) and mothers who had at least four Ante Natal care visits. Further nutritional status (stunting and underweight) of Children under 5 years also improved with increase in level of mother's education and household wealth quintile.

(c) and (d) As per Government of India guidelines, States have been suggested to ensure institutional delivery of all the pregnant women registered for Ante Natal Care (ANC). Under the National Health Mission (NHM), steps taken to increase the institutional delivery rates across the country include the following:-

- (i) Promotion of institutional deliveries through Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) wherein JSY incentive is being given to all BPL/SC/ST pregnant women delivering in Government health facilities/accredited private institutions in both High Performing State (HPS) and Low Performing State (LPS) regardless of age of mother and number of children.
- (ii) Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK) entitles all pregnant women delivering in public health institutions to absolutely free and no expense delivery, including caesarean section. Similar entitlements have been put in place for all sick infants accessing public health institutions for treatment.
- (iii) Operationalization of Sub-Centers, Primary Health Centers, Community Health Centers and District Hospitals for providing 24x7 basic and comprehensive obstetric care.
- (iv) Mother and Child Protection Card in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development to monitor service delivery for mothers and children.
- (v) Mother and Child Tracking System is being implemented to ensure antenatal, intra-natal and postnatal care along-with immunization services.
- (vi) Engagement of more than 9.15 lakh Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) to generate demand and facilitate accessing of health care services by the community.
- (vii) Establishing Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Wings at high caseload facilities to improve the quality of care provided to mothers and children.
- (viii) The Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA) has been introduced with the aim of conducting special ANC checkups for pregnant women (in their 2nd/3rd Trimesters of pregnancy) in the country on 9th of every month by Medical Officer/OBGY specialist in the Government health facilities and also through Private sector on voluntary basis.

Agreement on parental child abduction

2550. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has agreed to reconsider its refusal to join an international agreement that makes parental child abduction an offence punishable with a jail term;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry has consulted all the stakeholders in this regard;