

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2078
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2021

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE AND INFANT MORTALITY RATE IN THE COUNTRY

2078: MS. SAROJ PANDEY:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the maternal mortality rate and infant mortality rate that existed in the country prior to 2014; and
- (b) the steps taken by Government to reduce these rates during last five years and the extent of decline of these rates, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) and (b) As per the Sample Registration System (SRS) 2013 Bulletin of Registrar General of India, Infant Mortality Rate was 40 per 1,000 Live Births in 2013 at National Level and IMR reached to 30 per 1,000 Live Births in 2019 at National Level with a decline of 10 points from 2013.

In order to bring down Infant Mortality Rate, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) is supporting all States/UTs in implementation of Reproductive, Maternal, New-born, Child, Adolescent health and Nutrition (RMNCAH+N) strategy under National Health Mission (NHM) based on the Annual Program Implementation Plan (APIP) submitted by States/ UTs.

The interventions include:

- Facility Based New Born Care-Sick New-born Care Units (SNCUs) are established at District Hospital and Medical College level and New-born Stabilization Units (NBSUs) established at First Referral Units (FRUs)/ Community Health Centres (CHC) for care of sick and small babies.
- Under Home Based New-born Care (HBNC) and Home-Based Care of Young Children (HBYC) program, home visits by ASHAs are conducted to improve child rearing practices and to identify sick new-born and young children in the community.

- Early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding for first six months and appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices are promoted under Mothers' Absolute Affection (MAA).
- Social Awareness and Actions to Neutralize Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS) initiative has been launched for reduction of Childhood morbidity and mortality due to Pneumonia.
- Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) is implemented to provide vaccination to children against life threatening diseases such as Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Polio, Tetanus, Hepatitis B, Measles, Rubella, Pneumonia and Meningitis caused by Haemophilus Influenzae B. The Rotavirus vaccination has also been rolled out in the country for prevention of Rota-viral diarrhoea. Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) has been introduced in all the States and UTs.
- Children from 0 to 18 years of age are screened for 30 health conditions (i.e. Diseases, Deficiencies, Defects and Developmental delay) under "Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakaram (RBSK)" to improve child survival. District Early Intervention Centre (DEIC) at district health facility level are established for confirmation and management of children screened under RBSK.
- Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs) have been set up at public health facilities to treat and manage the children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) admitted with medical complications.
- Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight / Defeat Diarrhoea (D2) initiative has been launched for promoting ORS and Zinc use and for reducing diarrheal deaths.
- Several capacity building programs of health care providers are conducted for improving maternal and child survival and health outcomes.
