



भारत सरकार
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय

Government of India
Department of Health and Family Welfare
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

राजेश भूषण, आईएएस
सचिव

RAJESH BHUSHAN, IAS
SECRETARY

D.O. No. A.25011/14/2020-PNDT
17th August, 2020

570-PNDT
7/9/2020

O/o ACS Health
20463
Date: 27/08/2020

Dear Colleague,

I am happy to share with you the fact that there has been an improvement of 3 points in the Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB), at the national level from 896 (in 2015-17) to 899 (in 2016-18). The recently released Sample Registration System (SRS) data released by the office of the Registrar General of India presents the SRB of 22 States/UTs where the survey was carried out. It is encouraging that 15 out of the 22 States surveyed, have shown improvement with maximum increase of 15 points recorded in Rajasthan followed by Himachal Pradesh (12 point), Gujarat (11 points), Haryana, Assam, and J&K showing an improvement by 10 points each.

We would like to congratulate the good performing States/UTs especially Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Assam, and J&K. The efforts put in by these States/UTs are highly commendable, specially the impact made by innovative interventions like decoy operations, Informer incentives' scheme as well as awarding villages that improved their Sex Ratio at birth. It is through the effective implementation of the PC&PNDT Act that the States/UTs have succeeded in creating deterrence on the supply side on the one hand and have simultaneously worked for building a positive environment for the girl child on the other. The momentum of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign has played a significant role in this improvement. This progress needs to be sustained and improved through your concerted efforts to ensure that our girl children have an equal opportunity to survive and thrive.

The SRS report has also recorded a decline in SRB in 7 States with maximum decline of 6 points in Delhi followed by Odisha, Karnataka, and Bihar by 5 points each. It is also to be noted, that the 5 States including Bihar, Delhi, Karnataka, Odisha and Uttarakhand are constantly faltering on SRB and have recorded decline since 2014-16. There is an urgent need for these States/UT to take stock of the challenges involved and review the interventions and strategies taken to address the same. They should learn from the experiences of good/better performing States by replicating practices like those mentioned above.

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I take this opportunity to urge all the States/UTs to prioritize and address the issue of improving the SRB through legal and community advocacy interventions whilst ensuring necessary convergence with other government programmes. The States that have recorded improvement should continue with their progress and other States will have to reinvigorate their efforts and ensure that the birth of each girl child is a celebration.

Regards.

Yours sincerely,



(Rajesh Bhushan)

**Special Chief Secretary/Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/
Secretary (Health)**

(Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telengana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttrakhand & West Bengal).