

**The Health News Updates (January 15, 2016)**  
**From the desk of Reproductive Health Observatory**  
<http://www.rhobservatory.net/>

**Maternal and Child Health- National**

**National**

**City's infant mortality double the state's 2015 target**

The high number infant mortality and stillbirth figure hints at failure of government machinery to ensure postnatal and prenatal medical facilities, at least in urban areas. The government runs health related programmes through NMC. Unfortunately, NMC could not continue with some programmes launched to prevent stillbirths, maternal deaths and infant mortality.

Source: The Time of India City

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/City/Nagpur/Citys-infant-mortality-double-the-states-2015-target/articleshow/50431230.cms>

**Pregnant women without Mamta cards can seek treatment : Gujarat High Court**

Earlier, in 2010, a single judge of the high court had made it mandatory for all pregnant women to obtain Mamta Card and had prohibited doctors from conducting sonography on pregnant women who did not have a Mamta Card.

The division bench has quashed the direction issued earlier by the single-judge bench that every pregnant woman must get herself registered with the District Health Officer within two months of pregnancy and obtain a unique code.

Source: ET Healthworld

Read more

<http://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/pregnant-women-without-mamta-cards-can-seek-treatment-gujarat-high-court/50563664>

**Odisha govt to compensate ASHAs' death on duty**

ASHAs have been the backbone of the NRHM across states but they are not given adequate compensation. With much demand the Odisha government has decided to provide compensation to families of accredited social health activists (ASHAs) if they die on duty. In case of disability due to mishaps while working, ASHAs would get Rs 25,000 to Rs 50,000 compensation. For disability up to 40 per cent to 80 per cent, they would get Rs 25,000. For disability of more than 80 per cent, an ASHA would Rs 50,000.

Source: ET Health World

Read more

<http://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/odisha-govt-to-compensate-ashas-death-on-duty/50451840>

**Govt appoints IIHMR University to conduct NFHS in Chhattisgarh**

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has appointed IIHMR University has been assigned with the task to conduct the National Family Health [Survey](#) (NFHS4) in Chhattisgarh. The state plans to use the findings for formulating policies on health and family welfare.

Source: Business Standard

Read more

<http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/govt-appoints-iihmr-university-to-conduct->

[nfhs-in-chhattisgarh-116010800563\\_1.html](http://nfhs-in-chhattisgarh-116010800563_1.html)

### Rs 16cr plan to check maternal deaths in Pune

A 16cr budget has been allotted to improve the maternal health in the state. "Women with high-risk pregnancies pose a challenge before, during and after delivery and they need special care and monitoring to avert complications. The project aims to upgrade labour rooms, build the capacity of the staff, improve clinical practices and reorganise labour rooms," said Archana Patil, additional director, State Family Welfare Bureau

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/Rs-16cr-plan-to-check-maternal-deaths/articleshow/50507906.cms>

### Muzaffarnagar tense after rape victim commits suicide

The victim, a 40-year-old health worker, committed suicide last week after the "rape" video was circulated on WhatsApp allegedly by her rapist, Shahid, who is also a resident of the same village. Poor health worker safety and redressal mechanisms have led to the suicide of the health worker.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/muzaffarnagar-tense-after-rape-victim-commits-suicide/article8108894.ece>

## Reproductive Health

### National

#### Mortality and Three deaths post sterilisation in MP

Neglect of the doctors have caused deaths of three women post sterilisation.

Source: Star Samachar, Rewa, MP; E Patrika

Read more

<http://epaper.starsamachar.com/686913/StarSamachar-rewa/08.01.2016#page/12/2>

<http://epaper.patrika.com/c/7998825>

### International

#### Philippines contraception funding cut will fuel HIV and maternal deaths - activists

The government's decision to cut the \$21 million contraceptive budget surprised and infuriated legislators and advocacy groups who had struggled more than a decade to pass the Reproductive Health Law that guaranteed funds to provide contraceptives to the poor

Source: Thompson Reuters Foundation News

Read more

<http://news.trust.org/item/20160108113831-bt8ff/?source=fiOtherNews2>

## Abortion/Sex selection

#### Special medical board okays abortion for trafficked minor

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/Special-medical-board-okays-abortion-for->

#### From Too Many People to Too Few, China

The article talks about the book, ONE CHILD, which explains the life in the one child norm. It gives a picture of experiment being grossly inhumane, yielding, to start with, countless forced abortions.

<a href="http://trafficked-minor/articleshow/50515396.cms">trafficked-minor/articleshow/50515396.cms</a>	<p>Source: The Wall Street Journal Read more <a href="http://www.wsj.com/articles/from-too-many-people-to-too-few-1452285562">http://www.wsj.com/articles/from-too-many-people-to-too-few-1452285562</a></p>
	<p><b>Planned Parenthood Sues Anti-Abortion Group Behind Undercover Videos</b></p> <p>Source: The Huffington Post Read more <a href="http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/planned-parenthood-lawsuit-videos-center-medical-progress_5697ead3e4b0b4eb759d9a61?section=india&amp;utm_hp_ref=mostpopular">http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/planned-parenthood-lawsuit-videos-center-medical-progress_5697ead3e4b0b4eb759d9a61?section=india&amp;utm_hp_ref=mostpopular</a></p>
<b>Other Health News</b>	
<p><b>Ministry of Health proposes steep fee hike for drugs licences, registration, manufacturing</b> The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has proposed multifold fee increases for product registrations, manufacturing and product licences and clinical trials.</p> <p>Source: ET Healthworld Read more <a href="http://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/ministry-of-health-proposes-steep-fee-hike-for-drugs-licences-registration-manufacturing/50446409">http://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/ministry-of-health-proposes-steep-fee-hike-for-drugs-licences-registration-manufacturing/50446409</a></p>	<p><b>How Pakistan’s National Health Insurance Program Will Work</b> The new health insurance , a very ambitious programmes aims to cover all families that make less than \$2 a day through a gradual rollout. In the first phase, over 3 million families will get health insurance in 23 districts, with the ultimate aim to cover 22 million households across the country. The country’s existing health system’s subsidized rates covered a large population leaving the health centres over flooded. The new scheme has provision for treatment in private hospitals which could bring better health outcomes.</p> <p>Source: The Wall Street Journal Read more <a href="http://blogs.wsj.com/indiarealtime/2015/12/31/how-pakistans-national-health-insurance-program-will-work/">http://blogs.wsj.com/indiarealtime/2015/12/31/how-pakistans-national-health-insurance-program-will-work/</a></p>
<p><b>Training quacks will help in rural healthcare: Amartya Sen</b> With a poor situation in health care system in the rural areas Amartya Sen suggests in training of quacks to improve health care.</p> <p>Source: ET Healthworld Read more <a href="http://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/training-quacks-will-help-in-rural-healthcare-amartya-sen/50390999">http://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/training-quacks-will-help-in-rural-healthcare-amartya-sen/50390999</a></p>	
<p><b>New Juvenile Justice Act Comes Into Force Today</b> Source: The Quint</p>	

The much debated JJ Act had been amended and comes in affect from 15<sup>th</sup> January.

Read more

<http://www.thequint.com/india/2016/01/15/new-juvenile-justice-act-comes-into-force-today>