

**The Health News Updates (15<sup>th</sup> September, 2015)**  
**From the desk of Reproductive Health Observatory**  
<http://www.rhobservatory.net/>

**Maternal and Child Health- National**

**India missed 2015 child mortality target: Lancet report**

Even with great emphasis and efforts to reduce under five mortality, India seems to have fallen short of the under-five child mortality rate target of 42 per 1,000 live births by 2015?

Source: The Indian Express

Read more

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/india-missed-2015-child-mortality-target-says-lancet-report/#sthash.VudBaC6f.dpuf>

**Healthcare Paralysed by Doctors Shortage, Odisha**

According to reports, 288 infant deaths were reported during the last financial year while an alarming 56 deaths have been reported from April to June this year.

Source: The New Indian Express

Read more

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/states/odisha/Healthcare-Paralysed-by-Doctors-Shortage/2015/09/07/article3014731.ece>

**1.4Cr to meet UN healthcare goal**

The Jharkhand government revises budget to meet targets for reducing child mortality and improving maternal health care.

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ranchi/1-4Cr-to-meet-UN-healthcare-goal/articleshow/48948848.cms>

**The comprehensive healthcare alternative**

A take on medical and staffing issues.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/the-comprehensive-healthcare-alternative/article7652640.ece>

**Rural children in India have better immunization rates: Report**

The study first of its kind highlights the reasons why rural children in India have better immunisation rates

Source: The Economic Times

Read more

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/rural-children-in-india-have-better->

[immunization-rates-report/articleshow/48967507.cms](http://immunization-rates-report/articleshow/48967507.cms)

## Reproductive Health

### **Poverty not the force behind choosing to be a surrogate mother: Survey**

Women and families are choosing surrogacy because it give the surrogate mothers an opportunity to invest in something that was not possible with what they were earning

Source: India Medical Times

Read more

<http://www.indiamedicaltimes.com/2013/08/15/poverty-not-the-force-behind-choosing-to-be-a-surrogate-mother-survey/>

### **The 2030 Agenda Is a Win for Women and Girls**

Goal 3 of SDG contains a number of important provisions -- from reducing maternal mortality to ending the AIDS epidemic. One passage in particular aims to "by 2030 ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes."

Source: Huffington Post

Read more

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dawn-laguens/the-2030-agenda-is-a-win-for-women-and-girls\\_b\\_8062242.html?ir=India&adsSiteOverride=in](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dawn-laguens/the-2030-agenda-is-a-win-for-women-and-girls_b_8062242.html?ir=India&adsSiteOverride=in)

### **Menstruation Innovation: Lessons from India**

Arunachalam Muruganantham has been in the news for a long time for his innovation in manufacturing low cost sanitary napkins for the rural poor. Some others follow suit.

Source: New York Times- Blog

Read more-

<http://kristof.blogs.nytimes.com/2015/09/01/menstruation-innovation-lessons-from-india/?module=BlogPost-ReadMore&version=Blog%20Main&action=Click&pgtype=Blogs&region=Body&r=0#more-13265>

### **With gender equity comes vasectomy, and vice versa**

So why is vasectomy faring so poorly in low-income countries?

Gender norms have a lot to do with it. Family planning is generally viewed as a woman's responsibility; consequently, services are geared toward women.

Source: www.devex.com

Read More- <https://www.devex.com/news/with-gender-equity-comes-vasectomy-and-vice-versa-86878>

### **Importance of sex education stressed**

Emphasis was made on all schools to have sex education in the recent 31st National Conference on Sexology and the annual meet of the Council of Sex Education and Parenthood International-India

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Kochi/importance-of-sex-education->

### **Pakistan bans 'immoral' condom advertisement**

Discussing contraception in public is taboo in Pakistan's deeply conservative Muslim society, though some experts warn the population is growing too fast for the country's natural resources to support.

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/pakistan/Pakistan-bans-immoral-condom->

<a href="http://stressed/article7650587.ece">stressed/article7650587.ece</a>	<a href="http://advertisement/articleshow/48959980.cms">advertisement/articleshow/48959980.cms</a>
<p><b>Health gives nod to use of injectable contraceptives</b></p> <p>The Health Ministry has given in principle nod to the introduction of injectable contraceptives for women in the family planning programme. The costs of doing so are still being worked out –</p> <p>Source: The Indian Express Read more</p> <p><a href="http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/health-gives-nod-to-use-of-injectable-contraceptives/">http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/health-gives-nod-to-use-of-injectable-contraceptives/</a></p>	
<b>Abortion/Sex selection</b>	
<p><b>Abortion unsafe for minor rape survivor</b></p> <p>A 13 year old girl was refused for an abortion due to the time of pregnancy exceeding 21 weeks.</p> <p>Source: The Times of India Read more</p> <p><a href="http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/lucknow/Abortion-unsafe-for-minor-rape-survivor-Docs/articleshow/48929122.cms">http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/lucknow/Abortion-unsafe-for-minor-rape-survivor-Docs/articleshow/48929122.cms</a></p>	<p><b>Forcing a woman to have an abortion at eight months: Welcome to 21st century China</b></p> <p>A result of a coercive population risks women's lives</p> <p>Source: The Telegraph Read more</p> <p><a href="http://www.telegraph.co.uk/women/womens-life/11858723/China-Forced-abortion-late-term-to-avoid-one-child-policy.html">http://www.telegraph.co.uk/women/womens-life/11858723/China-Forced-abortion-late-term-to-avoid-one-child-policy.html</a></p>
<p><b>UP doctor announces gender of unborn child on social media</b></p> <p>A doctor in UP has violated the PCPNDT Act, by doing sex termination of the foetus and post it on social media</p> <p>Source: Hindustan Times Read more</p> <p><a href="http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/up-doctor-announces-gender-of-unborn-child-on-social-media/article1-1389909.aspx">http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/up-doctor-announces-gender-of-unborn-child-on-social-media/article1-1389909.aspx</a></p>	<p><b>Pregnant at 10 and abortion's not an option in Paraguay</b></p> <p>According to Paraguay's Ministry of Health, 704 girls aged 14 and younger gave birth last year - about two each day. But the real figure could be higher - data collection is unreliable, especially in far-flung communities, some of them many hours by road from Asuncion, the capital</p> <p>Source: BBC news Read more</p> <p><a href="http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-34195973">http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-34195973</a></p>
<p><b>PCPNDT officials of five states to plan strategies against sex tests</b></p> <p>Officials of pre-conception pre-natal diagnostic technique (PCPNDT) cells from Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat will discuss how to conduct joint decoy</p>	<p><b>The reality of abortion in the Philippines</b></p> <p>Source: <a href="http://www.rappler.com/">http://www.rappler.com/</a> Read more</p> <p><a href="http://www.rappler.com/move-ph/ispeak/105680-reality-abortion-philippines">http://www.rappler.com/move-ph/ispeak/105680-reality-abortion-philippines</a></p>

operations and track illegal sonography machines.

Source: Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/jaipur/CPNDT-officials-of-five-states-to-plan-strategies-against-sex-tests/articleshow/48966610.cms>

### Other Health News- National

#### **Strangled by red tape: How to fix India's broken healthcare system without spending big money**

Devi Shetty's take on improving India's healthcare system by increasing skilled human resource and not merely increasing health budget.

Source: The Times of India –Blog

Read more

<http://blogs.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/toi-edit-page/strangled-by-red-tape-how-to-fix-indias-broken-healthcare-system-without-spending-big-money/>

#### **Empower women to help improve child sex ratio: Activist**

Varsha Deshpande, a lawyer who runs the Lek Ladki Abhiyaan, an organisation that has become well-known for carrying out sting operations on clinics and doctors who indulge in sex-selective tests and abortions

Source: The Times of India

Read more

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/aurangabad/Empower-women-to-help-improve-child-sex-ratio-Activist/articleshow/48931975.cms>

#### **Adolescent girls need iron-rich diet**

The girls in villages of Madurai are highly anaemic. The tablets given are thrown away by girls.

Source: The Hindu

Read more

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Madurai/adolescent-girls-need-ironrich-diet/article7648798.ece>

#### **ADB, UN Women to Partner on Study to Track Progress on Gender Equality in Asia**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) announced that they will collaborate on a study that will track [Asia](#) and the Pacific's progress in meeting its gender equality goals under the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) framework which will run to 2030. The study will focus on the gender equality goal, SDG Goal 5, but will also include all goals and targets that aim to measure progress in improving women's lives.

Source: [Business](#) Standard

Read more

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/adb-un-women-to-partner-on-study-to-track-progress-on-gender-equality-in-asia-115091100662\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/adb-un-women-to-partner-on-study-to-track-progress-on-gender-equality-in-asia-115091100662_1.html)

## Latest Articles/Studies/Blogs on Maternal, Reproductive and Child Health

### **Anti-abortion groups target funding of Planned Parenthood**

Anti-abortion groups are continuing their campaign against government funding of Planned Parenthood—a major provider of reproductive health care in America.

[http://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lancet/PIIS0140-6736\(15\)00113-0.pdf](http://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lancet/PIIS0140-6736(15)00113-0.pdf)

### **Potentials, Experiences and Outcomes of a Comprehensive Community Based Programme to Address Malnutrition in Tribal India**

<http://www.lifescienceglobal.com/journals/international-journal-of-child-health-and-nutrition/volume-4-number-3/93-abstract/ijchn/1758-abstract-potentials-experiences-and-outcomes-of-a-comprehensive-community-based-programme-to-address-malnutrition-in-tri>

### **Breaking the Cycle of Malnutrition**

Part I- Why teens matter?

[http://www.huffingtonpost.in/dr-saba-mebrahtu/breaking-the-cycle-of-mal\\_b\\_8063650.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.in/dr-saba-mebrahtu/breaking-the-cycle-of-mal_b_8063650.html)

Part II- Healthy mothers produce healthy babies

[http://www.huffingtonpost.in/dr-saba-mebrahtu/breaking-the-cycle-of-mal\\_1\\_b\\_8101738.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.in/dr-saba-mebrahtu/breaking-the-cycle-of-mal_1_b_8101738.html)

### **As A Student Myself, Why I Think Sexuality Education Is A Must In Schools**

<http://www.youthkiawaaz.com/2015/09/gender-sex-and-sexuality-personal-story/>