Highest Infant Mortality Rate in MP

Why in News?

Madhya Pradesh has been reported to have the **highest [infant mortality rate (IMR)](#) in India, with 40 out of every 1,000 newborns dying** in the state, according to statistics revealed by Deputy CM and Health Minister Rajendra Shukla in the state assembly.

Key Points

- According to the latest **Sample Registration System (SRS) 2022** data from the Registrar General of India, **Madhya Pradesh's IMR (40)** is not only **above the national average (26)**, but also the **highest among all states**.
    - In an **effort to combat this issue**, the government has allocated Rs 110 crore for various health schemes and initiatives, including programs such as **[Anaemia Mukt Bharat](#)**, **nutritional rehabilitation centres**, and **[Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram](#)**, among others.
- **Causes of Infant Deaths:** The primary causes of infant deaths in Madhya Pradesh include **premature birth**, **pneumonia**, **sepsis**, **low birth weight**, **birth asphyxia**, and **diarrhea**.
    - The government has listed these factors as key areas of focus in its efforts to reduce IMR.

Zero Maternal and Infant Deaths in MP's Gram Panchayats

On **Independence Day**, the **Madhya Pradesh [National Health Mission (MP-NHM)](#)** recognized the outstanding efforts of **grassroots healthcare workers** and **community leaders** who achieved remarkable results in **maternal and child healthcare**.

- **Achieving Zero Deaths in Dhakoni: Dhakoni Gram Panchayat**, with a population of **8,107**, successfully reported **zero maternal and infant deaths** for two consecutive years.
- **Efforts in Garauli Gram Panchayat (Chhatarpur):** Similarly, **Garauli Gram Panchayat** in **Naugaon block**, **Chhatarpur district**, with a population of **6,598**, also reported **zero maternal and infant deaths** over two years.
- **Institutional Deliveries in Ratlam:** In **Ratlam district**, **Primary Health Centre (PHC)** in **Rawti, Bajna block** emerged as a leader in **institutional deliveries** for **2024-25**.

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